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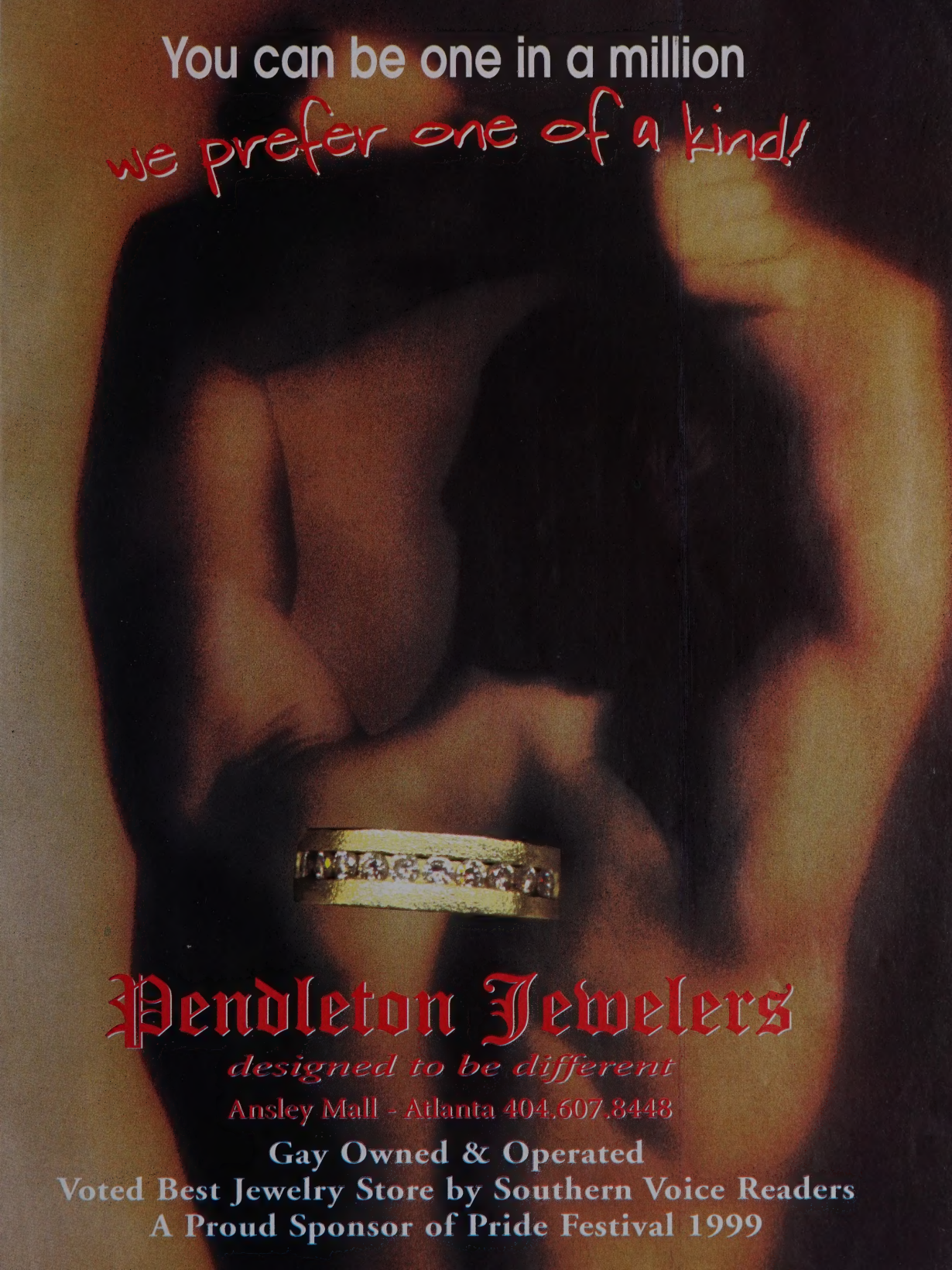
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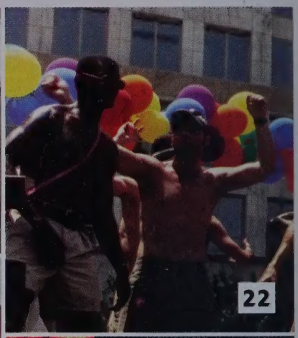

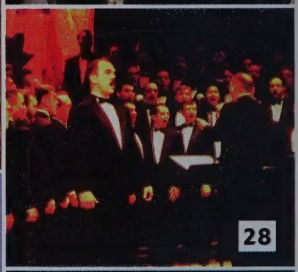


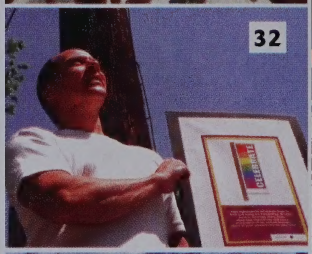

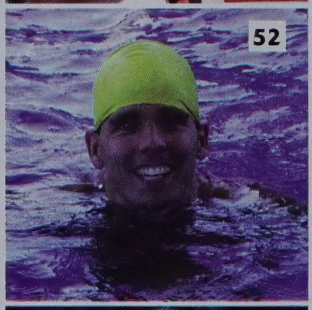


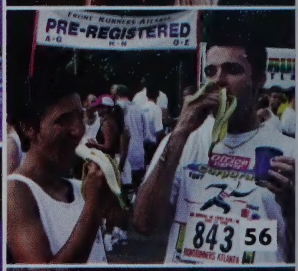

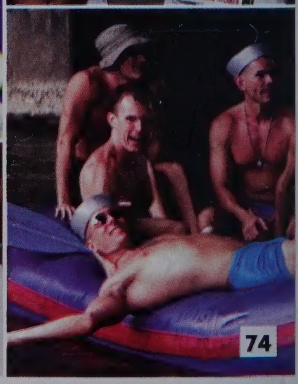

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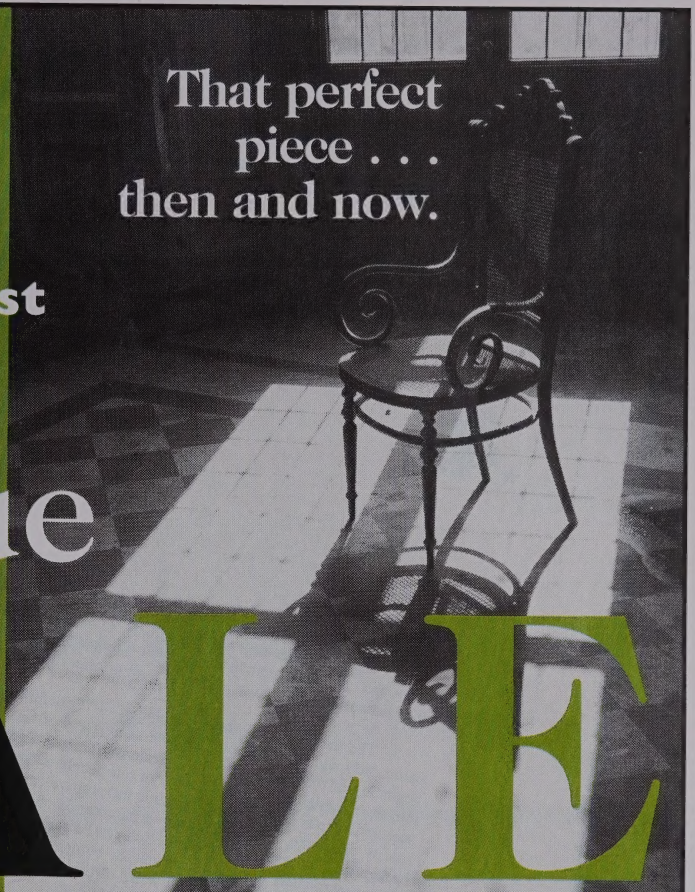

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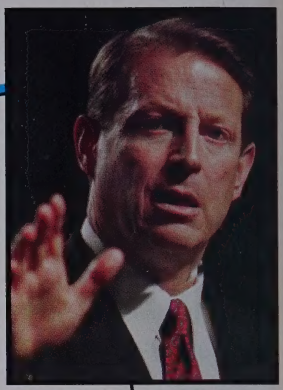

THE VICE PRESIDENT
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Dear Friends:

I am honored to have this opportunity to send my personal greetings to everyone taking part in the observation of the 1999 Gay and Lesbian Pride Celebration. While I regret that I cannot be with you in person, I want to offer my best wishes to all of you.

The theme of this year's celebration — "Prideful Past, Powerful Future" — is particularly significant in this, the 30th anniversary of the Stonewall riots of 1969 and the beginning of the modern gay and lesbian movement. Today, I hope that all Americans will join in recognizing that the diversity of our people is the source of our strength. Our nation's success depends on our ability to value the positive contributions that every member of our society can make, regardless of any differences in race, religion, ethnic origin, economic background, or sexual orientation. You can be sure that I will continue to support the right of every American to succeed without the burden of prejudice, discrimination, or persecution not only in government but in all walks of life.

Tipper joins me in thanking you for your commitment to our nation and its fundamental values of inclusion, opportunity, and respect for every individual. Please accept our warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Al Gore

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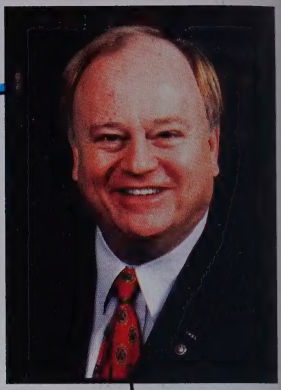

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Dear friends:

It is my extreme pleasure to welcome you to Atlanta and applaud Southern Voice for publishing "Summer in the City," the guide to all of Atlanta's many arts, sports, entertainment, recreational and special events.

I truly enjoyed meeting a number of you recently when I addressed the May 1st Human Rights Campaign dinner in Atlanta. I echo the message of inclusion and tolerance that Archbishop Desmond Tutu spoke so eloquently of that evening. As an original co-sponsor of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act and the Equality Non-Discrimination Act, I am committed to ensuring that gay men and lesbians are able to enjoy the same basic rights as other American citizens. I will not rest until all Americans can be open, honest and safe at home, at work and in their community.

Over the summer months, Georgia will host thousands of tourists from around the world, who come to visit Atlanta and to enjoy its many entertainment and cultural offerings. This guide will help you explore all that is happening this summer in our marvelous city. I hope you will have the opportunity to meet and get to know some of the millions of Georgians who are proud to welcome you to all the fun and excitement our state has to offer.

Southern Voice newspaper has been a fixture in Georgia now for more than ten years. From its grassroots beginnings, it has grown into an informative and entertaining newspaper that reaches more than 75,000 readers each week. The success of Southern Voice is a tribute to its dedicated staff and to the tremendous community that continues to support it.

On behalf of the people of Georgia, I extend a warm welcome to all those visiting our state, and a heartfelt thank you to Georgia's gay community for contributing so much to our cultural heritage.

Most respectfully,

Max Cleland

Max Cleland
United States Senator

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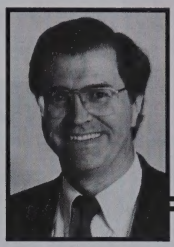

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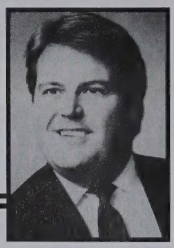

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Dear Atlanta residents and visitors,

Summer is the time of year when the City of Atlanta is most vibrant and alive. Our restaurants and cafés open onto sprawling decks and patios filled with patrons. The parks literally bloom with bikers, joggers, frisbee throwers, and relaxed sun-seekers basking in the energy that fuels our city all summer long. Offering depth and beauty to this picturesque setting are the faces of thousands of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered Atlantans.

Events occurring this summer are indicative of the enormous contributions our community makes to the life of this city. In addition to the internationally recognized Pride Festival that will take place in June, we will also fill Grant Park for the Atlanta Front-Runner's 5K and the Georgia Tech Aquatic Center for the International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics championships.

In The Life Atlanta hosts the Black Gay Pride Festival, which is a popular Labor Day weekend destination for people across the country. In fact, all summer long countless special events of a national and international nature will enlighten and entertain us while showcasing the incredible human capital that makes up the LGBT community.

I hope you will join me this summer in discovering all that Atlanta has to offer. Our talents, hard work and contributions to this city have made it a truly world class place to live, work and play. On behalf of the City of Atlanta, please accept my best wishes for a memorable and enjoyable summer that will leave you singing the praises of our city.

Best regards,

Cathy Woolard
Atlanta City Council, District Six

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A Window Media Publication

southern VOICE

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Welcome to "Summer In the City," *Southern Voice's* guide to gay and lesbian Atlanta.

Summer is the real social season here in the South. Traditions that go way back before air conditioning lead us to gather with friends in backyards and on balconies, surrounding ourselves with laughter and good company as the evening cools.

We at *Southern Voice* would especially like you to come visit us during Pride weekend. We'll be on the second floor of The Mill at Piedmont Park on the corner of 10th and Monroe. Come on by, cool off and sit a spell. It will be a perfect day.

We hope Atlanta residents and visitors alike will use our magazine to plan a lot of perfect days this summer. These pages hold something to interest you, whether you're into plays or parties, dancing or dining, music or marches. Browse through and see what's happening in our fair city between Memorial Day and Labor Day, then get out and be a part of it.

Enjoy your summer,

Joan T. Sherwood

*Joan T. Sherwood*
*Special Publications Editor*

Alif Lisa Mike Nicki Norris Reni Rigo

**A SALUTE TO OUR COVER MODELS: What do you get when you toss seven goodlooking people into an ice cold swimming pool on the first day of May? Language that will earn you an NC-17 rating and goosebumps that look like an "X Files" special effect. It wasn't as bad once we broke through the ice. But seriously, our models were real troopers in adverse conditions. Thanks to you all and to our wonderful photographer Arlene Dean.**

**—The Ed.**

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Dish in Virginia-Highland

PHOTO BY ROBB D. COHEN

# *Patio Dining in Atlanta Blends Continental Flair with Southern Flavor*

By Jonathan Lerner

As someone who loves both dining outdoors and watching people, I found myself in heaven one Saturday evening last June. It was the first night of my very first visit to Madrid. By instinct and hunger, I made my way to the main gay neighborhood.

It centers on Plaza Chueca, a pedestrian square. Three sides are lined with bars and restaurants, all with outside tables. On the fourth is the city's lesbian and gay bookstore. Not everybody in Chueca is gay—there were old folks chatting on benches and little kids shrieking in the playground.

I followed local custom and hopped between eateries, ordering a tapa or two at each until I was stuffed. Then I settled on a bench to watch. Householders in slippers walked their dogs. A clique of hysterical baby fags and dykes passed through again and again, on some urgent mission. A phalanx of bikers roared by. Couples and groups of friends—straight, gay, and who knows?—swirled out of the subway station and took seats at the cafes. Staggeringly handsome men caught my eye—or avoided it.

Atlanta acutely lacks the sort of coherent urban places, like Plaza Chueca, that enrich life in old-world cities like Madrid. But little by little, our town is being humanized, and the proliferation of outdoor dining places is an important part of that. A few are among the city's best restaurants, and offer terrific food. Others are better thought of as places to just hang out, have a nibble—forgive the kitchen if you must—and watch the world go by. To me, there's no more pleasurable or romantic activity, with the possible exception of sex. But then again, you never know where a chance encounter at a café might lead.

The location here that most approximates Madrid's Chueca in gayness, scale and hubbub is Decatur Square. All along its east side now is a row of alfresco dining spots. None of these is known as an outstanding restaurant, but they're all competent and affordable. Probably the most inventive menu is at Santa Fe Café, where the typical Southwestern choices are spiced with the likes of black bean griddle cakes sauced with

**Cont'd on pg. 17** ▶

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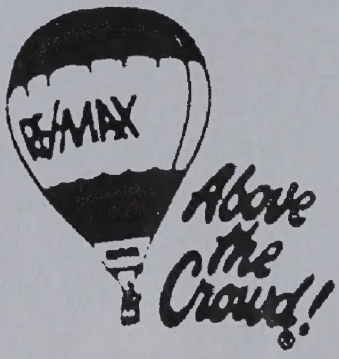


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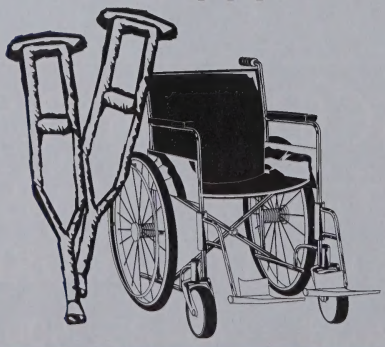

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Einstein's at Juniper and 12th Street

**Cont'd from pg. 14**

a shrimp, crawfish, poblano pepper and roasted garlic cream. Bundos has an extensive card of Italian dishes, most with rich sauces. The Brick Store is essentially a beer and sandwich joint, with a few less common offerings like vegetarian pierogi, fish and chips, and Brunswick stew. Sweet Melissa's, where there's sometimes live music, is also for bar fare: burgers, spuds, salads, sandwiches and pita pockets.

This strip is lively during weekday lunch, and again in the evenings and weekends. Its only drawback is that it's exposed to the western sun and can be mighty hot on a summer afternoon. In that case, you can stroll across Ponce to where the local Mick's has a nicely shaded patio. Also around the corner and on the shady side of Ponce, is Café Alsace; from a culinary point of view it's the best of these eateries, but its outdoor tables sit on an unfortunate sliver of sidewalk, exposed to the fumes and din of traffic.

Canoe on the Chattahoochee

A number of Atlanta restaurants with outdoor seating suffer from that problem. Two that front heavily trafficked streets have solved it by installing patios so large that they create their own self-contained scenes. Cowtippers on Piedmont and Einstein's on Juniper are both wildly popular, especially with gay men who find them ideal stages on which to

**Cont'd on pg. 18 ▶**


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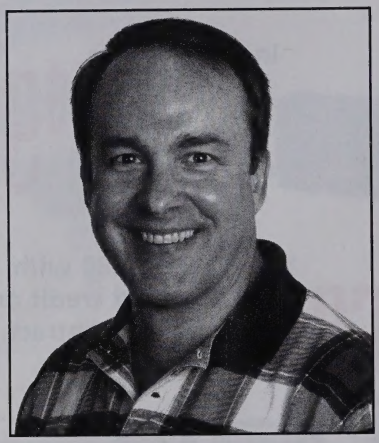

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Indigo in Virginia-Highland

**Cont'd from pg. 17**

vogue and preen. Down the street at Joe's on Juniper, auto traffic is less intrusive since the patio is above street level.

The blocks of Crescent Street just south of 14th have become another café strip, where there's little traffic to cause a stink. South City Kitchen has a sophisticated looking terrace beneath fabric canopies and leafy Bradford pears—actually a more comfortable place to sit than the restaurant's ultra-stylish but harsh interior. Next door, the Martini Club stays open late, for alcohol-assisted carousing. Booze is also prominent at The Front Page News —are these people playing on that terribly unjust stereotype of journalists as lushes?—and the food has a strong New Orleans accent. The most reliable of the Crescent Street restaurants is Vickery's, which has a new menu and one of the prettiest patios in town, protected by an openwork brick wall and shaded by a 200 year old Siberian elm.

Another gorgeous green space is the huge garden and crazy-paved terrace at My Sisters' Room, the former St. Agnes Tea Garden, in Decatur; they only serve bar food, but what a place to loll! Also a strong contender for best setting is Canoe, where the dining terrace overlooks a park-like lawn and the slow-flowing Chattahoochee River, and where the contemporary cuisine is top-notch.

Six other restaurants' kitchens rank very high in my estimation and offer outdoor seating. They are Anis in Buckhead and Le St. Amour on Piedmont, which both serve Provencal cooking; the under-appreciated Patio across from the Inman Park MARTA station, where the food is rustic, hearty Italian; and three spots in Virginia-Highland, seafood-oriented Indigo and ultra-contemporary Dish and Terra Cotta. Choose one of these when what you want is a really good meal, outdoors. With the exception of Dish, their patios don't offer much in the way of people-watching.

The building at the corner of Virginia and Highland is undergoing a major transition. Everybody's Pizza is staying put, but as I write, new restaurants are taking over the storefronts formerly occupied by Capo's, the Dessert Place and Chow. It's too early to know about their food. But one thing will stay the same—the meandering covered balcony in the rear, which they all share. A table back there provides calm respite in that thronged boutique dis-

**Cont'd on pg. 20** ▶

***André was looking for a meaningful relationship based on mutual support and understanding – in the meantime, Jim would do.***

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**Cont'd from pg. 18**

trict. I like to pretend that it overlooks a lake in Italy, instead of a sunken parking lot.

Two other Highland Avenue dining terraces that offer a close view of the crowds are new Southern Tiburon and homestyle Italian Camille's. You can also eat on the patio at the latter's sister restaurant, San Genarro on Cheshire Bridge, where the Italian fare is a bit more refined.

A few other patios around town appeal to me just because they're attached to no-nonsense restaurants in down-to-earth neighborhoods. At Fellini's in Candler Park you can nibble perfectly good thin-crust pizza while surveying the queerly hip passersby on McLendon Avenue. A short hop away in Little Five Points, where people-watching is prime, sits Cafe Boheme with both streetside and patio dining. The fare is simple French at a reasonable price. Las Palmeras is a homestyle Cuban eatery tucked away on the quiet corner of 5th and Durant, in Midtown. And down in Cascade Heights, in Southwest Atlanta, the Beautiful Restaurant serves flawless—read, greaseless—meat-n-three, cafeteria style; you can carry your tray outside to a table in the midst of a charmingly homely garden of cactus and roses.

Park Tavern, formerly known as The Mill at Piedmont Park PHOTO BY ROBB D. COHEN

Assessments of great food or plain fodder aside, the ultimate appeal of dining outdoors is sun and scene. And for these, no place can top The Mill in Piedmont Park. From its tables—and chaise longues—you can take in the antics of cavorting canines, the scantily clad bodies splayed out on Queen's Hill, the whizzing parade of bikers, skaters, joggers and strollers, and the fairy-castle skyline of Midtown soaring above the treetops. It's urban bliss. ▼

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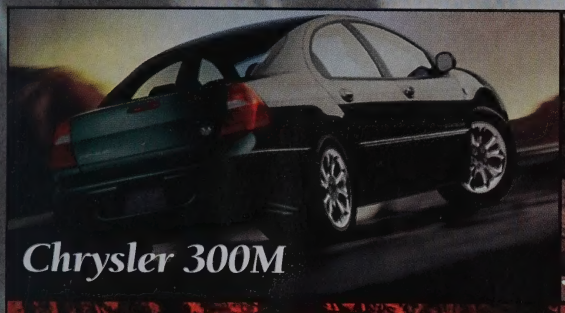

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PHOTO BY CINDY SPROUL

PHOTO BY CHRIS CRAIN

## *New Parade Route, Youth Activities on Tap for 29th Annual Celebration*

By Laura Brown

If you're one of the hundreds who stakes out a spot on 10th St. each year to watch the Atlanta Pride Parade make its triumphant entrance into Piedmont Park, you'll need to find a new vantage point this year.

Atlanta's gay pride festival will have a slightly different twist this time, although the summer tradition will remain in the same area of Piedmont Park for the 29th annual event, scheduled for June 25-27.

Pride officials had originally announced that construction on the area known as "Oak Hill" would force Pride to move from its usual location in the park. But it now appears that construction in the park will be delayed, allowing Pride to return to its traditional area, while construction on neighboring 10th St. will force a change in the route for the Pride Parade.

The often outrageous parade will still kick off at noon on Sunday from the MARTA Civic Center station, winding its way through the streets of Atlanta back to Piedmont Park. But instead of ending the parade by crowding down 10th St. to enter the park at the Charles Allen entrance, the parade will turn and continue down Piedmont Road to end at the 12th St. entrance to park.

For the most part, then, this year's Pride will remain the same crowded, sweltering but ultimately beloved "family" reunion of thousands that gay men and lesbians around the Southeast have grown to love and expect.

As in past years, entertainment will be

Cont'd on pg. 24 ▶

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**Cont'd from pg. 22**

offered on Friday night, all day Saturday and all day Sunday, ending with the infamous Drag Cabaret on Sunday night, although this year performers will be divided between two stages.

The main Pride Stage will be set up in its usual location at the bottom of Oak Hill, while a second coffeehouse-style stage featuring acoustic music and performance art will be located in Pride's market area, where community businesses and organizations have their booths.

Also new this year will be expanded activities for gay youth and gay parents.

Thanks to a grant from the Community Foundation for a Greater Atlanta, Pride will offer youth-oriented programming throughout the weekend. Last year, children's activities at Pride were limited to Saturday morning.

"We've always tried in the past to do something in regards to families, but it's always been kind of hit-and-miss, depending on the volunteers available to plan the programs," Pride Committee Executive Director Donna Narducci said.

This year, Pride has used the grant funds to hire two youth coordinators. Planned activities include a children's play area complete with a "Moonwalk" play space and special activities, as well as workshops for gay youth and current and prospective gay parents scheduled throughout the weekend.

The workshops, on topics including raising kids in a gay family and adoption options, will take place in the park in a special events tent paid for by the grant. A "rave"-style dance geared towards gay youth is also being planned for Friday night, Narducci said. All events will be open to the public, with no registration required.

Along with the new official Pride events, Pride weekend will still include a variety of related events that offer something for almost everyone in the Atlanta community.

On Friday night, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender couples wishing to pledge their love to each other may participate in a public Commitment Ceremony sponsored by Atlanta Couples Together. The ceremony takes place at 7 p.m. at the Pride special events tent in Piedmont Park. For more information, contact ACT at 404-365-2455.

PHOTO BY CINDY SPROUL

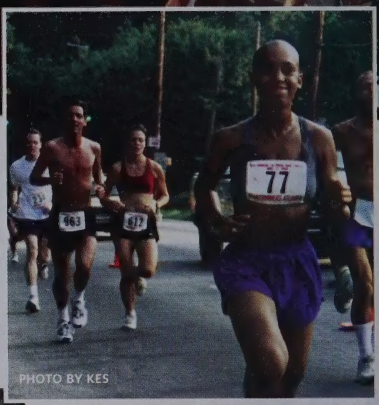
PHOTO BY KES

PHOTO BY KES

Pride 1999 promises more fun stuff for kids. Above, Billy Carroll (left) and Katrin and Josh Killeen play in the children's activity area.

PHOTO BY CINDY SPROUL

Pat Weaver and Connie Horn take vows at the 1998 Pride Commitment Ceremony.

Also on Friday night, AIDS Survival Project will once again sponsor a Candlelight AIDS Vigil at 8:30 p.m. in John Howell Park, located on Virginia Ave. in Virginia-Highland. Call ASP at 404-874-7926.

Before heading to Piedmont Park on Saturday morning, join in the Ninth Annual 5K Pride Walk/Run sponsored by Front Runners Atlanta. To beat the heat, registration starts at 7 a.m. and the event begins promptly at 8 a.m. at Grant Park. Call 770-621-5007 for more information; race applications will be available in *Southern Voice*, *Eclipse* magazine and community businesses.

## 1998 Pride Run

If running isn't your thing, consider joining the Atlanta Lambda Center and other community groups for the Pride Community Breakfast on Saturday morning from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the special events hall at The Mill. *Southern Voice* and *Eclipse* magazine have rented that space at The Mill, located at the bottom of Piedmont Park, throughout Pride weekend in order to donate space to community events. This annual breakfast honors community volunteers and leaders. Tickets cost $12 in advance, $15 at the door; contact the Lambda Center at 404-881-1685 or on the web at http://members.aol.com/atl-lambda.

On Saturday night, the Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus will sponsor a Pride Dance beginning at 9 p.m. at the *Southern Voice/Eclipse* space at The Mill. The dance benefits the AFWC; tickets cost $20 until June 15 and $25 after. Call the chorus at 770-438-5823 for more information.

Finally, as Pride ends on Sunday night, In the Life Atlanta will host a formal/semi-formal Black Gay Pride Kick-Off Party at the *Southern Voice/Eclipse* space at The Mill. The kick-off event, scheduled for 6 p.m. on Sunday, will serve as a fundraiser for In the Life Atlanta, official organizers of Atlanta's Black Gay Pride celebration over Labor Day weekend. For information, call the ITLA Prideline at 404-872-6410. ▼

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# BEACH PARTY

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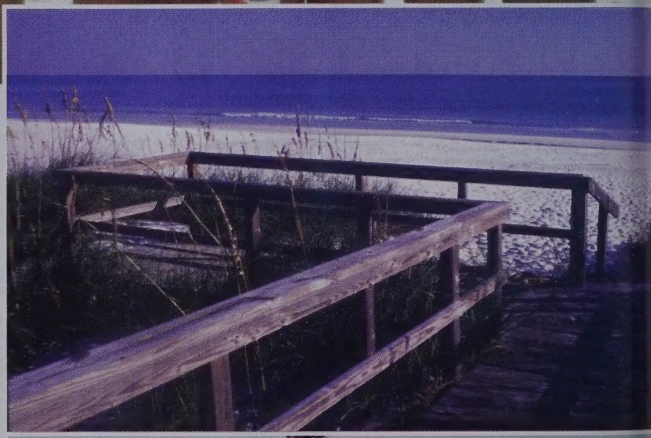

## *Thousands of Gay Men and Lesbians Flood Pensacola for Memorial Day Weekend*

By David Goldman

As wonderful as Atlanta is, its appalling lack of a beach is indeed its most regrettable shortcoming. Every year more and more Atlantans discover the beautiful beaches of Florida's Panhandle, which are an easy day's drive from the city.

And for gay men and lesbians from Atlanta, across the South and other parts of the country as well, Memorial Day in Pensacola has become the official getaway destination.

This year between 50,000 and 100,000 gay folk are expected to pour onto Pensacola's sugary white beaches. The center of the party is the beach from Santa Rosa Island to the Gulf Islands National Seashore, and the scene here has been described as "like Pride—with an ocean!"

DAVID BOSWELL

Tents and umbrellas—from the functional to the flat-out fabulous—stretch for miles on the edge of the sapphire blue gulf. Some people are happy with just a cooler and a beach towel, but for others the sky's the limit. You might even spot something like a home-away-from home complete with inflatable furniture, a working fountain and other elaborate touches. Watch for the party animals who hand out drink treats in return for impromptu "free shows."

Parking is at a premium and pulling onto the road's sandy shoulder can result in a stuck car. DeltaDyke Productions is running seven air-conditioned shuttle coaches 24-hours-a-day between the beach and area hot spots. Hop on board—they're free!

On Friday and Saturday get ready to laugh yourself silly with Suzanne Westenhoefer, Lynn Thomas, Dorothy Hirsch, Georgia Ragsdale, Michele Baland and Marga Gomez in a big show at the 1,800-seat Saenger Theater. Robin Tyler will speak on the Millennium March on Washington.

For circuit boys, the place to be Saturday night is Jeffrey Sanker's Beach Maneuvers VI. This party blasts off from Pensacola's Bay Front Auditorium with DJ Julian Marsh at the controls and a special performance by Erin Hamilton. The host hotel is the Pensacola Grand.

Then Sunday night, it's Abracadabra V, sponsored by Oz, at the Pensacola Civic Center with DJ Victor Calderone mixing it up. This party's headquarters is the Hampton Inn on the Beach.

And what the heck—as long as you're in Florida, why not extend your trip by a week? Head south to Tampa for Gay Day at Busch Gardens, June 3, then hit Gay Day at Sea World in Orlando, June 4. Get wet at Beach Ball 3 on Friday, June 4, at Disney's Typhoon Lagoon. Then on Saturday, it's the legendary party in the Magic Kingdom—the 9th annual Gay Day at Disney World! Sounds like one hot way to kick off summer 1999!

**Pensacola information**
www.gaypensacola.com.

**Saenger Theater Shows**
$35 advance, $45 door
850-434-7444

**Beach Maneuvers VI**
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888-777-8886

**Abracadabra V**
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800-488-5252

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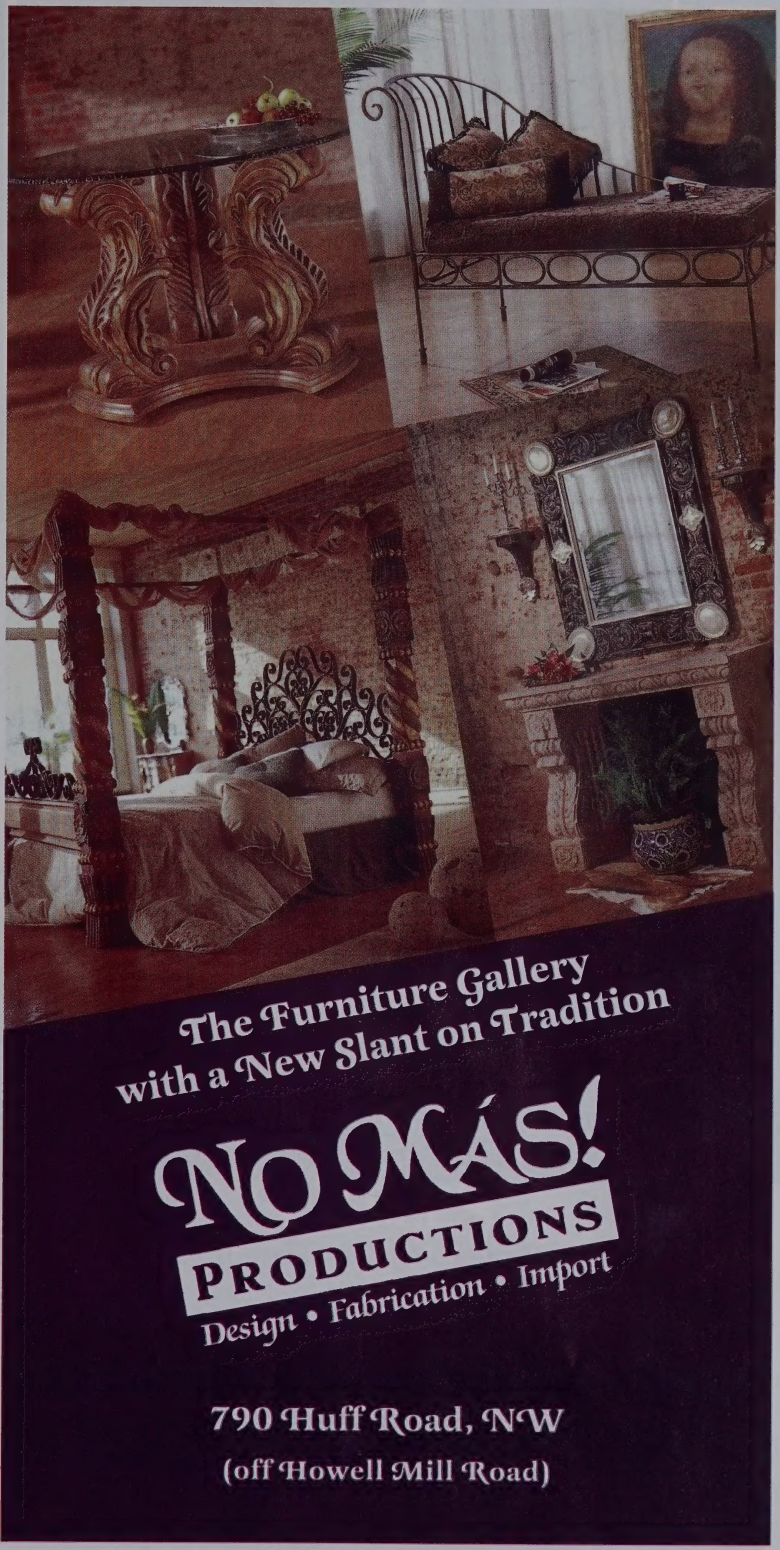

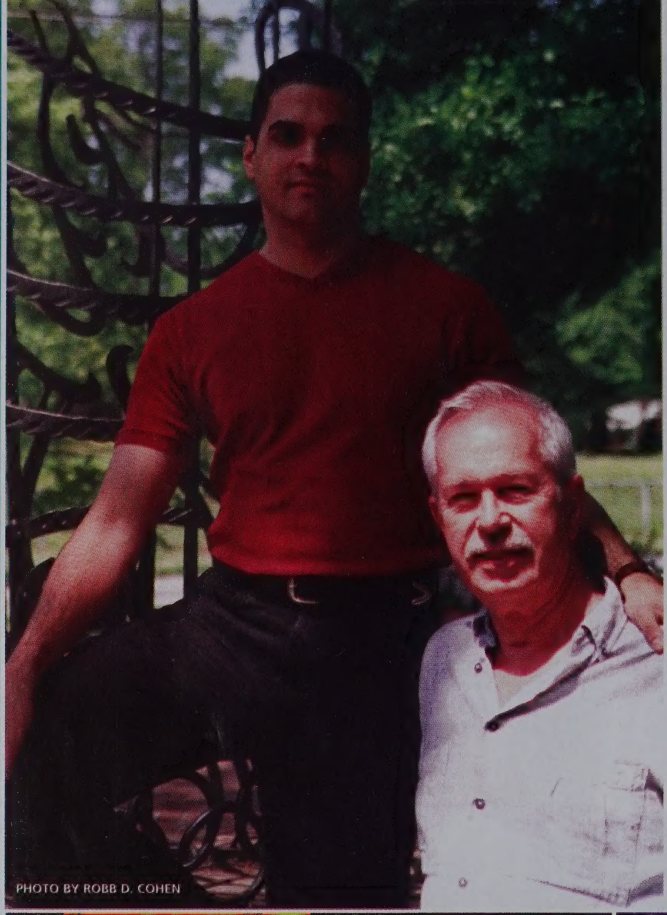

*Clockwise from left:* Atlanta Pride Cultural Celebration Month coordinators Steven Gaynair and Erik Harkness; opera "Frederick Hohenzollen" at Clayton College and State University; pianist George Skaroulis; Washington, D.C., Gay Men's Chorus

## *Atlanta Pride Cultural Celebration Month Packs Impressive Line-up*

by Jim Farmer

While June is always considered a banner month for the gay and lesbian community in Atlanta—thanks primarily to the annual Pride Festival Weekend—this year two men hope to spread the celebration throughout the entire month.

Eric Harkness and Steven Gaynair are the coordinators of the Atlanta Pride Cultural Celebration Month, spotlighting the positive contributions by gay men, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered persons have made in the performing arts. "Events will kick off the first week of June and will continue until the final weekend—and in some instances beyond that

—with the Gay Pride parade and celebration in Piedmont Park," said Harkness. "We have tried to get a cross-section of performing arts in Atlanta."

The idea came to Harkness three years ago, but last year was the inaugural Cultural Month. "We had a dozen events and many were prominent; this year's has almost 20. Some are repeats, and some are new," said Harkness. "Last year, a lot of people were aware that there were many gay-related events, but might have thought they were random. Not many people knew about the Cultural Month Celebration and what we were doing," said Harkness. "We are hoping to change that this year and make the community more aware, and to have great crowds."

This year's slate features an assortment of dance, theater, film, music and more.

The Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus will join forces with The Washington, D.C., Gay Men's Chorus for the summer performance "S' Wonderful" on June 18. The collaboration will feature the music of Cole Porter.

Clayton College and State University in Morrow is presenting the world premiere of "Frederick Hohenzollern," detailing the tragic romance between Crown Prince Frederick the Great of Prussia and Hans Katte, a lieutenant in the Prussian Army. The opera premieres on June 24, and opening night is a benefit for Project Open Hand and Project M.A.G.I.C.

As was the case last summer (with "Poor Super Man" and "Dream Boy"), theater is well-represented. Christ Covenant will stage a gender

**Cont'd on pg. 30** ▶

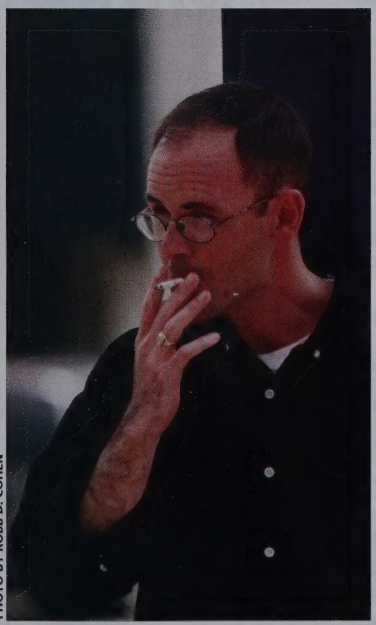

PHOTO BY ROBB D. COHEN

Playwright Steve Murray's "Rescue and Recovery" opens in July.


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**Cont'd from pg. 29**

bending version of Neil Simon's classic "The Odd Couple" June 10-13 and June 17-18 at Neighborhood Playhouse's Discovery Arena.

Dad's Garage hosts the daring "What the Butler Saw," June 18-July 17, by gay English playwright Joe Orton. Orton was exiled from the English theater for the "overtly homosexual content" of this farce.

And Actor's Express presents the world premiere of Steve Murray's "Rescue and Recovery," July 8-Aug. 14, about a young married couple whose relationship is threatened when the husband has a fling with a male nurse.

On local airwaves, Public Radio station WABE (90.1 FM) will include music by gay composers and musicians in June. On-air talent Joshua Levs will also interview artists and entertainers from the community. Additionally, WPBA (TV 30) will have a slate of issues and entertainment. See the *Summer In the City* events calendar (pages 34-51) for listings.

The acclaimed documentary "The Brandon Teena Story," which played to a warm reception at Emory's gay and lesbian film festival last fall, gets an encore screening at Georgia State's Cinefest June 18-June 24. The documentary is based on the life and brutal murder of Brandon Teena, who was biologically female but lived as a male, and his struggle with identity.

"The Brandon Teena Story" screens at GSU's Cinéfest June 18-24.

Another highly regarded documentary, "Dancemaker," will be shown at The High Museum of Art June 4. "Dancemaker" deals with dancer/choreographer Paul Taylor and his company. A reception at Gallery 100 will precede the film.

Two of Atlanta's leading bookstores will hold month-long series of visiting authors. Outwrite Bookstore & Coffeehouse will feature, among others, Dudley Clendinen and Adam Nagourney, authors of "Out for Good: The Struggle to Build a Gay Rights Movement in America"; John-Manuel Adriote, promoting "Victory Deferred: How AIDS Changed Gay Life in America"; and

Dr. Richard L. Pimental-Habib, author of "Empowering the Tide: A positive Guide to Gay and Lesbian Self-Esteem."

Charis Books and More hosts Sally Lowe Whitehead, who discusses her discovery of a gay husband in her "The Truth Shall Set You Free," and Deborah Greenwood and Adair Conner, co-authors of "Lesbian Battering," in addition to other writers.

Poetry is a hot ticket for the Cultural Celebration Month. The gay/lesbian Rainbow Poets will be meeting at Blake's June 19 to share their prose. Later that night the Black Lesbian and Gay Poet Society will present "SpeakFire!" at the First Existentialist Church in Candler Park.

Seven Stages Theatre will host the Fringe Festival of Contemporary Dance and Performing Art throughout the month, featuring performances by the Beacon Dancers and others. The goal of the festival is to "showcase dynamic and innovative artists." Seven Stages also presents "Love/War" by Full Radius Dance, on June 25-26, including a performance of gay author Paul Monette's "In the Vale of Borrowed Time."

Of course, a celebration of gay culture wouldn't be complete without humor. Eddie's Attic has scheduled two gay and lesbian comedy nights in June. The Atlanta stand-up comedy group "Trucks and Tiaras" performs June 8, with a half-dozen routines already confirmed. Comic Bernie Lubbers of Kentucky headlines for a performance of "There's a Reason Why They Call Us Queer" on June 22. Atlanta comic Alyssa Barnett hosts; other performers include Tim Monteith and his life-sized puppets, Jim Hackler and Matt Montgomery.

Elsewhere, Atlanta pianist George Skaroulis will tickle the ivories at the Anthony Ardavin Gallery June 17; St. Mark United Methodist Church's June 20 recital will honor local organists and gay composers; and the Atlanta College of Art will highlight works by members of the gay community all month.

And finally, Pride weekend will close out June's agenda in loud, garish fashion. (See story, page 22)

Harkness feels the Atlanta Pride Cultural Celebration Month is vital not only for its entertainment value or as a tool to spotlight the gay community, but also as a means to educate the next generation.

"A lot of younger gay men and lesbians aren't aware of our history and struggle. This year marks the 30th anniversary of Stonewall, and it's important to remember that and to honor where we are what we've accomplished."


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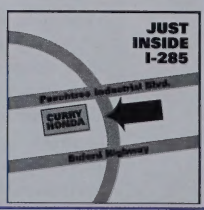

# A BANNER IDEA

Clay Miller stands at the intersection of 10th Street and Juniper with the design of the 8-foot rainbow banners that will hang from utility poles from downtown to midtown.

**The Banner Project**
828 West Peachtree St.,
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Atlanta, GA 30308
404-876-7660

## *Atlanta Resident Clay Miller Takes on Rainbow Banner Project*

By Andrew Alexander

"I'm the kind of guy who, when I do something, I like to do it in a big way," says Clay Miller. Perhaps it's fortunate that "doing things in a big way" comes naturally to Miller. He's taking on what promises to be one of the largest and certainly one of the most visible projects of this summer's Gay Pride celebration: the hanging of up to 600 rainbow banners from the city's utility poles.

"I'm not an activist," he says. "I'm really not. I'm just comfortable with who I am, and I felt it was time that we as a community did something that would acknowledge us at the same level as any other group that advertises their event. It's a celebration of who we are."

Miller, a projects manager currently at work on the Y2K conversion team for SunTrust, first had the idea for the Atlanta banners when he was down in Orlando last year on business. While there, he saw the rainbow banners that were hung for their pride celebration. "I was driving through downtown and there they were: all these gay flags hanging from the light-poles," he says. "I thought 'This is so incredible. We have to create this in Atlanta next year.' That's when I made the decision to do it."

When he got back to Atlanta, Miller contacted lesbian City Council member Cathy Woolard's office and began doing the research for putting the project together. The Banner Project is seeking mainly grassroots funding from individual sponsorships to meet expenses, although Miller's committee is also seeking the help of several corporate sponsors.

The eight-foot rainbow banners, which will hang for the entire month of June, will feature the word "Celebrate," and Miller says they will cost about $100 each to have printed, hung, taken down and stored. The banners will be reusable for future Pride months for about five to seven years.

Miller is enthusiastic about the project, even though the banners caused some controversy in Orlando; many were vandalized and the project garnered national attention when Rev. Pat Robertson spoke out against it.

"That made me want to do it even more," Miller says. "I know the project, once it goes up, it's going to cause some dialogue. But that's essential ... The Southern Baptists will be here for a convention in mid-June. What a wonderful way to welcome them to the city."

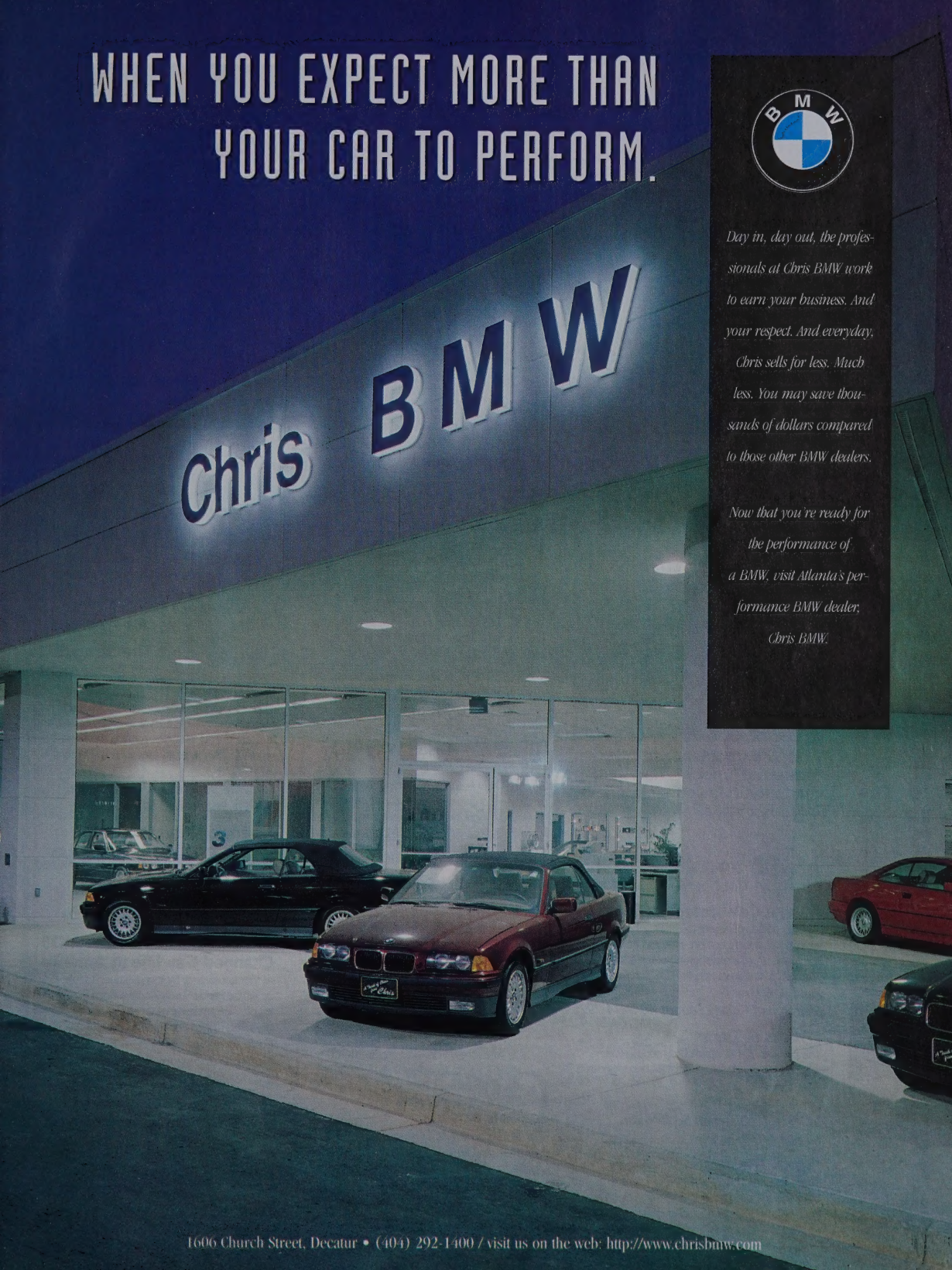
Atlanta is actually an adopted home for Miller who grew up in Indiana and attended college at Indiana State University. He's been a resident of Atlanta for 16 years and first fell in love with the city when he attended the second Hotlanta River Raft Race.

"We're going to hang as many banners as we have money for," says Miller, stating that banners will fly even if the $60,000 goal is not met. At press time total funds raised were at about $20,000.

Miller says the banners will start downtown at International Boulevard, go all the way up Peachtree Street to 14th, then from I-75 on 10th all the way to the park, and from Piedmont and Monroe at Ansley Mall down to 8th Street. Streets around the state house and the capitol will be decorated as well.

"I'm going to be so happy on June 1," says Miller. "All I can think about is when they first start going up."

The Banner Project is seeking donations. Supporters can choose various level of sponsorship, but the committee is suggesting a contribution of $100, for one banner. Donations are tax-deductible. ▼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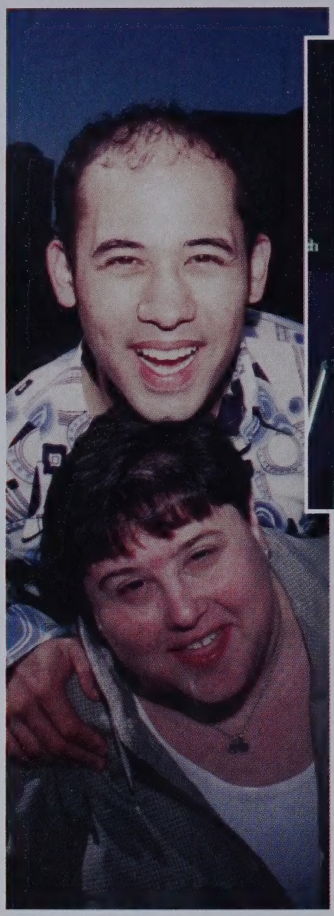


Matt Montgomery and Alyssa Barnett of Trucks & Tiaras are ready to tickle you pink June 8 at Eddie's Attic.

Acoustic duo CommonbonD plays the Pride main stage at 5 p.m. and Eddie's Attic at 8 p.m. on June 27.

## special events

### Atlanta Celebrates the Tonys
Atlanta's unique of way of celebrating the Tony awards, with a silent auction, wine and hor d'oeuvres before the large screen showing of the awards. All proceeds of this event benefit AIDS Survival Project.
***June 6, 8 p.m.***
*Sheraton at Colony Square, 404-874-7926*

### *Trucks & Tiaras
This popular Atlanta stand-up comedy group returns to the stage for a special Pride performance.
***Tue, June 8, 8 p.m.***
*Eddie's Attic*
*515-B N. McDonough St., Decatur*
*404-377-4976*

### *SpeakFire!
This open mic music and poetry event is hosted by the Black Lesbian and Gay Poets Society, and will also feature a market of food, libations, art and jewelry.
***Sat, June 12, 8 p.m.***
*First Existentialist Church*
*470 Candler Park Dr., NE*
*404-378-5570*

### *The Rainbow Poets
Local GLBT poets gather for an open mic night, open to all to enjoy or read.
***Sat, June 19, 2 p.m.***
*Cafe Du Monde*
*Underground Atlanta*
*110 Lower Alabama St.*
*404-681-2719*

### *There's a Reason Why They Call Us Queer
Comedy show featuring headlining comic Bernie Lubbers of Louisville, KY. Local comic Alyssa Barnett hosts. Show includes Tim Monteith and his life-sized puppets, Jim Hackler and Matt Montgomery.
***June 22, 8 p.m.***
*Eddie's Attic*
*515-B N. McDonough St., Decatur*
*404-377-4976*

### *Pride Festival
Thousands gather in Piedmont Park for this festival of music, speakers, vendors and marches that is the heart of the Pride celebration. (See story, page 22)
***Fri, June 25-Sun, June 27***
*Piedmont Park*

### *Pride Interfaith Service
Prepare to express your diversity in the Pride Parade, and pause to celebrate the source of the beauty that shines through everyone. Free, donations to Pride requested.
***Sun. June 27, 9 a.m.***
*Christ Covenant MCC*
*Renaissance Hotel, 590 W. Peachtree St.*
*404-373-2933*

## bookstore/lecture

### *The Truth Shall Set You Free
Sally Lowe Whitehead discusses her memoir about her discovery that her husband is gay.
***June 3, 7:30 p.m.***
*Charis Books and More*
*1189 Euclid Ave., NE, 404-524-0304*

### *Out for Good: The Struggle to Build a Gay Rights Movement in America
Appearance by editors Dudley Clendinen and Adam Nagourney. Through the voices of gay activists and their opponents, struggles, conflicts and success are revealed within the early gay rights movement.
***June 8, 8 p.m.***
*Outwrite Bookstore & Coffeehouse*
*991 Piedmont Ave., 404-607-0082*

### *Silencio=Muerte
The young people from Horizons School and other LGBT teens will read and discuss this work.
***June 10, 7:30 p.m.***
*Charis Books and More*
*1189 Euclid Ave., NE, 404-524-0304*

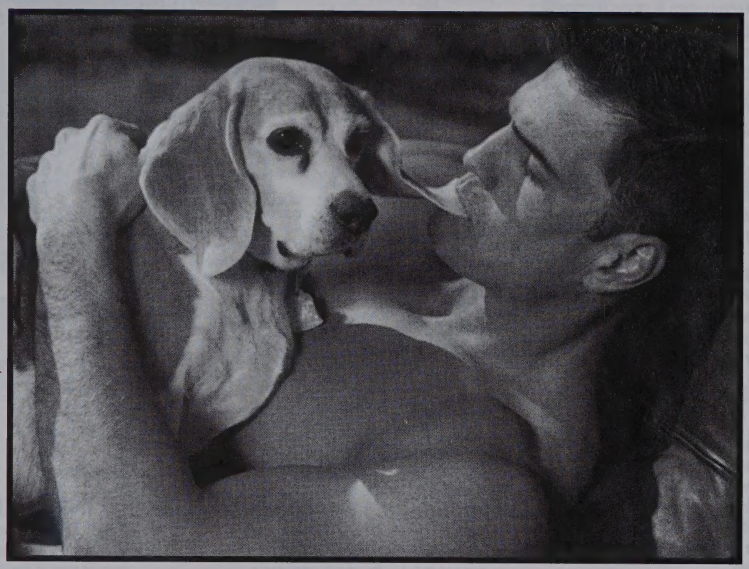
### *Victory Deferred: How AIDS Changed Gay Life in America
Author appearance by John-Manuel Adriote. Picking up where Randy Shilts' "And the Band Played On" left off, Adriote describes the recent history of the gay rights movement and the effects of AIDS.
***June 9, 8 p.m.***
*Outwrite Bookstore & Coffeehouse*
*991 Piedmont Ave., 404-607-0082*

### *All Women's Open Mic
A monthly gathering of women and talent. Women only, please.
***June 11, 8 p.m.***
*Charis Books and More*
*1189 Euclid Ave., NE, 404-524-0304*

Cont'd on pg. 36 ▶

** Atlanta Pride Cultural Celebration Event*

# You've seen the ads, You've seen the pictures, You've heard about the charities



## But you never hear about the work!!!

## And you probably won't!!

The fight against AIDS is not over, not even close. With so many needs to be met, I created

*RED RIBBON HOMES*

as a way to help raise money and raise public awareness for differing charities to continue the good fight against AIDS. Join me in the good fight against this disease so that those who need help can get it!

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If your charity is not on this list, please ask them to contact me.

Cont'd from pg. 34

### *Longtime Companions: Autobiographies of Gay Male Fidelity

Appearance by editors Alfred Lees and Ronald Nelson. This collection of stories from gay male couples in committed relationships illustrates contributions to the community and fulfillment of personal needs.

***June 14, 8 p.m.***
*Outwrite Bookstore & Coffeehouse*
*991 Piedmont Ave., 404-607-0082*

### *Lesbian Battering

Deborah Greenwood and Adair Conner offer information, discussion and support.

***June 17, 7:30 p.m.***
*Charis Books and More, 1189 Euclid Ave., NE*
*404-524-0304*

### *Lesbian Erotica

Readings of poetry and stories. Women only, please.

***June 18, 8 p.m.***
*Charis Books and More, 1189 Euclid Ave., NE*
*404-524-0304*

### *Empowering the Tribe: A Positive Guide to Gay and Lesbian Self-Esteem

Author appearance by Dr. Richard L. Pimental-Habib. This guide to spiritual and emotional well-being includes discussions on a variety of influences, including meditations and affirmations in addition to a comprehensive list of support organizations.

***June 22, 8 p.m.***
*Outwrite Bookstore & Coffeehouse*
*991 Piedmont Ave., 404-607-0082*

Barenaked Ladies puts it on at Lakewood Amphitheatre Aug. 10.

### *Ceremonies of the Heart

Author and editor Becky Butler shares her experiences and those of many women who have created their own commitment ceremonies.

***June 24, 7:30 p.m.***
*Charis Books and More*
*1189 Euclid Ave., NE*
*404-524-0304*

### *A Fool's Errand: A Novel

Author appearance by Louis Bayard. This story of love, mistaken identity and dreams is filled with colorful and diverse characters as Patrick reaches love in unexpected ways.

***June 30, 8 p.m.***
*Outwrite Bookstore & Coffeehouse*
*991 Piedmont Ave.*
*404-607-0082*

### *Party Crasher

Author appearance by Rich Tafel. Executive director of Log Cabin Republicans and an ordained Baptist minister, Tafel advocates a gay politics that neither denies gays and lesbians their sexuality nor reduces them to it.

***August 18, 8 p.m.***
*Outwrite Bookstore & Coffeehouse*
*991 Piedmont Ave., 404-607-0082*

## dance

### *Fringe Festival

A contemporary dance and performing arts festival featuring the Core Performance Company and Beacon Hill Dance with a special guest performance from Maya Ciorrocchi.

***June 10-June 20***
*410 W. Trinity Pl., 404-373-4154*

### *Love/War

The professional dance company, Full Radius Dance, combines the talents of dancers with and without disabilities in this collection of dance pieces.

***June 25 & June 26, 8 p.m.***
*7 Stages Theater, 1105 Euclid Ave., NE*
*404-523-7647*

## exhibits

### *Current Work

This gallery features the talent of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered Atlanta College of Art Alumni.

***June 4-June 26***
*Atlanta College of Art*
*1280 Peachtree St.*
*404-733-5008*

### Brent Nikolson Earle Exhibit

Earle presents a series of professional photographs highlighting Pride events, the Gay games and activism as celebration and theater.

***June 11, 7:30 p.m.***
*Outwrite Bookstore & Coffeehouse*
*991 Piedmont Ave.*
*404-607-0082*

### *An Evening of Art and Music

This evening of art and music is hosted by the Anthony Ardavin Gallery and will feature a piano performance by Atlanta composer/performer George Skaroulis.

***June 17, 7 p.m.***
*Anthony Ardavin Gallery*
*309 East Paces Ferry Rd.*
*404-233-9686*

You can't resist The Temptations (above) and The Tops, July 30 and 31 at Chastain Park.

## film

### *DANCEMAKER

This Academy-Award nominated documentary investigates the creative process through a portrait of one of the dance world's most legendary figure, Paul Taylor.

***June 4, 8:00 p.m.***
*High Museum of Art*
*Rich Auditorium*
*404-733-4570*

### Atlanta Film & Video Festival

Image Film and Video Center presents the 23rd annual film festival in Atlanta to be held at AMC Phipps Plaza 14, The Carter Center, The High Museum, Garden Hills Cinema and IMAGE.

***June 12-20***
*See sidebar, pg. 38.*
*404-352-4225*

## music

### Atlanta Jazz Festival

The 22nd annual Jazz Festival features has expanded this year beyond its afternoon events at Piedmont Park to venues around the city throughout the weekend.

***May 29-30***
*Festival Hotline: 404-817-6851*

### Fazil Say

Virtuoso pianist. Mozart, Bach, Debussy and Liszt.

***May 30, 3 p.m., $25***
*Spivey Hall, Clayton College & State Univ., Morrow, 770-961-3683*

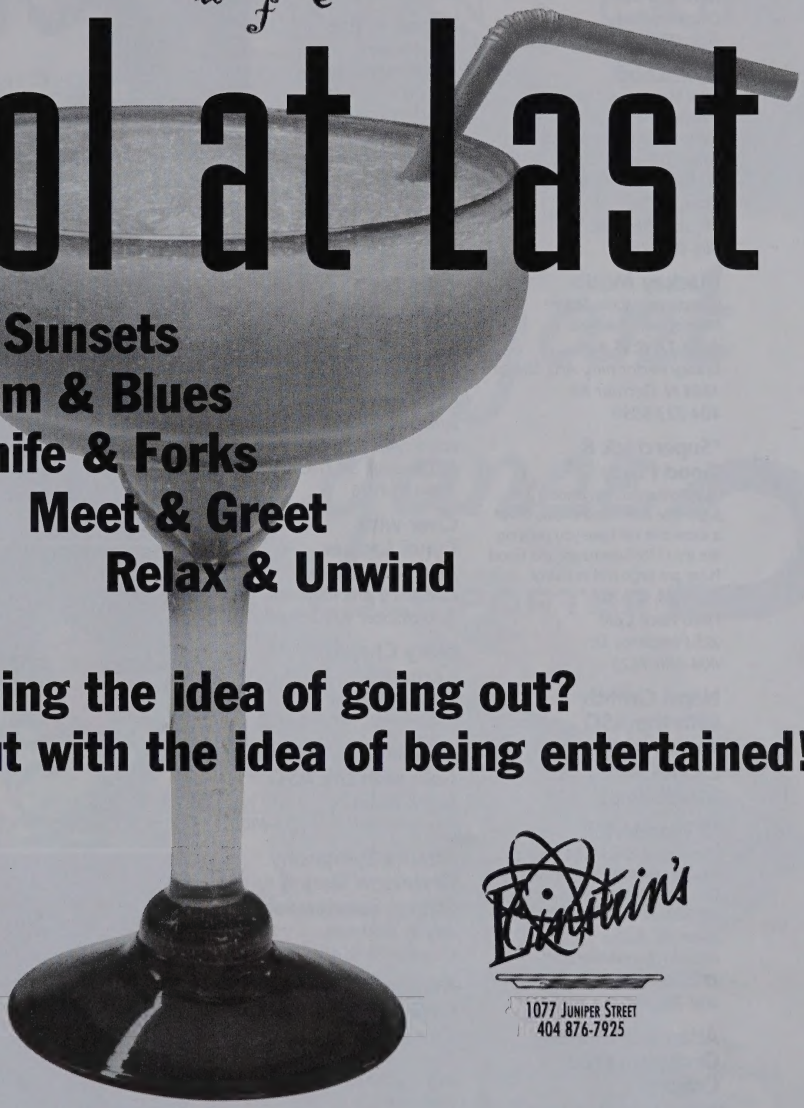
Cont'd on pg. 38 ▶

Metrotainment cafe

# Cool at Last

**Patios & Sunsets**
**Rhythm & Blues**
**Knife & Forks**
**Meet & Greet**
**Relax & Unwind**

**Entertaining the idea of going out?**
**Go out with the idea of being entertained!**



MARTINI Club
1140 Crescent Avenue
404 873-0794

Einstein's
1077 Juniper Street
404 876-7925

Cheyenne Grille
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404 842-1010

Garrison's Broiler & Tap
4300 Paces Ferry Road
770 436-0102

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1140 Crescent Avenue
404 873-0794

Cowtippers Cattle Talk and Cocktails
1600 Peachtree Road
404 874-3751

Joe's on Juniper
A Midtown Tavern
1049 Juniper Street
404 875-6634

Cont'd from pg. 36

### Seal
***June 5, 8 p.m.***
*Chastain Park*
*TicketMaster 404-249-6400*

### *Out Loud!
Local organists will play their favorite pieces in St. Mark's Cathedral in honor of Pride.
***June 6, 2 p.m.***
*St. Marks United Methodist Church*
*781 Peachtree St.*
*404-873-2636*

### Mackey Music
Composer/guitarist Steven Mackey with Thamyris.
***June 17, 8:15 p.m.***
*Emory Performing Arts Studio*
*1804 N. Decatur Rd.*
*404-727-5050*

### *Superchick & Good Pussy
The mothership has landed! This super-size funk band throws down a show that will have you partying like it's 1978! Superchick and Good Pussy are large and in charge.
***June 18, 8 p.m.***
*Hard Rock Cafe*
*215 Peachtree St.*
*404-688-7625*

### Nanci Griffith with the ASO
***June 19, 8 p.m.***
*Chastain Park*
*404-733-4800*

### *S'Wonderful!
The Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus together with the Washington D.C. Gay Men's Chorus perform the music of Cole Porter.
***June 19, 8 p.m.***
*Atlanta Symphony Hall*
*1293 Peachtree St.*
*404-733-4900*

### Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Free Concert
***June 20 (raindate June 22), 7:30 p.m.***
*Piedmont Park at the Meadows*

### Halcyon
Female acoustic duo from Tampa, featured at Pride '98.
***June 25, 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m.***
*Eddie's Attic*
*515-B N. McDonough St., Decatur*
*404-377-4976*

### Gracie & the Slipcovers
Acoustic country/rock band made up of five women. Voted Favorite Local Act (after Indigo Girls) by *SoVo* readers in *1999 Tops & Bottoms*.
***June 26, 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m.***
*Eddie's Attic, 515-B N. McDonough St., Decatur*
*404-377-4976*

### CommonbonD
Acoustic duo combining folk, rock, soul and country, blended with a little bluesy-jazz. Scheduled for Pride main stage at 5 p.m. June 27.
***June 27, 8 p.m.***
*Eddie's Attic, 515-B N. McDonough St., Decatur*
*404-377-4976*

### Cher with Cyndi Lauper
***June 30, 7:30 p.m.***
*Lakewood Amphitheatre*
*TicketMaster 404-249-6400*

### Mary Chapin Carpenter
***July 1, 7:30 p.m.***
Chastain Park, 404-733-4800

### Natalie Cole & Freddie Cole with the ASO
***July 2, 8 p.m.***
*Chastain Park, 404-733-4800*

### Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Stars & Stripes Spectacular
***July 3, 8:30 p.m.***
*Chastain Park, 404-733-4800*

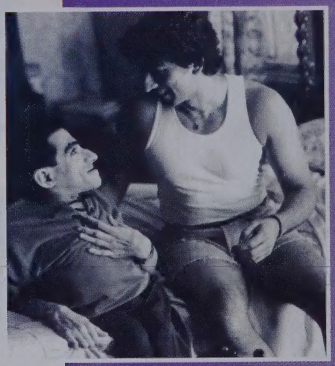
### Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Free Concert
Charles Floyd, conductor
***July 4 (raindate July 5), 7:30 p.m.***
*Centennial Park*

### Manhattan Transfer with the ASO
***July 9, 8 p.m.***
*Chastain Park, 404-733-4800*

Cont'd on pg. 42 ▶

## Atlanta Film and Video Festival
### featured films with gay themes

**June 12-20**



"Sixth Happiness"

### SIXTH HAPPINESS
A Bombay-born young man whose growth is stunted finds a new world in the arms of a male boarder who moves in with his family. 97 min.
***June 15, 4 p.m.***
***June 18, 10 p.m.***
***AMC Phipps Plaza***

### TWINGE
Debut feature by Atlantan Bazyl Dripps. Fate pulls the strings when a straight writer wannabe finds his relationship paralleling that of his gay friend. 73 min.
***June 13, 8:00 p.m.***
***AMC Phipps Plaza***

### IN THE FLESH
A clean-cut young man who leads a double life as a hustler falls in love with a cop investigating the murder of a john. 102 min.
***June 15, 9:30 p.m., High Museum's Rich Auditorium***

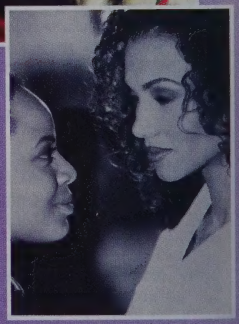
### 24 NIGHTS
A 24-year-old man who still believes in Santa Clause thinks his new co-worker Toby is the true love he asked Santa to bring. 97 min.
***June 16, 10 p.m., AMC Phipps Plaza***

"24 Nights"

### GIRLS LIKE US
**(a program of lesbian shorts)**

***PURSE***
A camp send-up of the horror genre pitting two butches against some sinister purses. 6 min.

***ONE SMALL STEP***
An 8-year-old North Carolina tomboy plans to marry the girl next door. 29 min.



"A Luv Tale"

***A LUV TALE***
This stylish romance pairs an overworked editor of an upscale African-American magazine with a photojournalist. 45 min.
***June 15, 10 p.m.***
***AMC Phipps Plaza***

***Tickets go on sale June 1. Call 404-352-4225 for information.***

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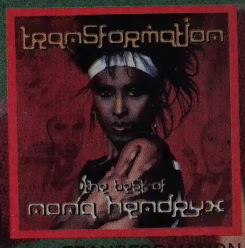


Razor & Tie

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Razor & Tie

PAXTON
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Island

AIDA
**$14.99 CD**

▶ Various

Capitol

DIVAS EXOTICA
**$12.99 CD**

▶ Various

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VOL. 1
**$12.99 CD**

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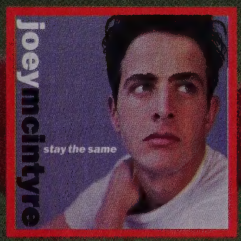


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▶ Martha Wash

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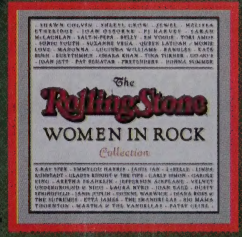
▶ Various

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WOMEN IN ROCK
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▶ Various

Logic

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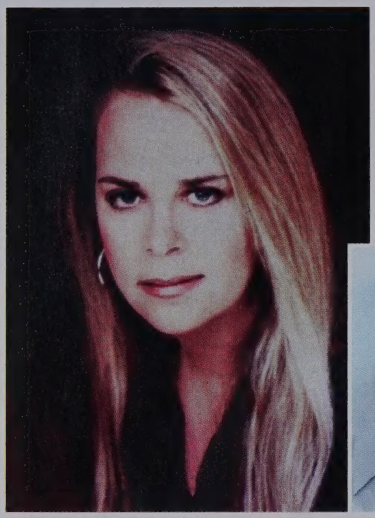
# WHEREHOUSE music

**On sale at the following WHEREHOUSE Music Stores Through May 18th - 24th and June 22nd - July 5th:**

**ATLANTA** WHEREHOUSE Superstore: 2099 Peachtree Road • Lenox Square Mall • 1531 Piedmont Rd. •1057 Ponce De Leon Rd. **DECATUR** 1496 Church Street

Cont'd from pg. 38



Back-to-back: Mary Chapin Carpenter plays Chastain Park on July 1 while Natalie Cole takes the stage with Freddie Cole and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra July 2.

**Shawn Colvin**
***July 14, 8 p.m.***
*Chastain Park, 404-733-4800*

**The Chieftans**
***July 16, 8 p.m.***
*Chastain Park*
*404-733-4800*

**Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Special Concert**
Marin Alsop, conductor
***July 16, 8 p.m.***
*Cathedral of the Holy Spirit*
*4650 Flat Shoals Pkwy, Decatur*
*404-243-5020*

**And All That Jazz!—The American Experience**
Marin Alsop directs this evening that is a tribute to America's original art form.
***July 17, 8 p.m.***
*Atlanta Symphony Hall*
*1293 Peachtree St.*
*404-733-5000*

**Hootie & the Blowfish**
***July 17, 8 p.m.***
*Chastain Park, 404-733-4800*

The one everyone's been waiting for. Cher plays Lakewood Amphitheatre with Cyndi Lauper June 30.

Cont'd on pg. 44 ▶

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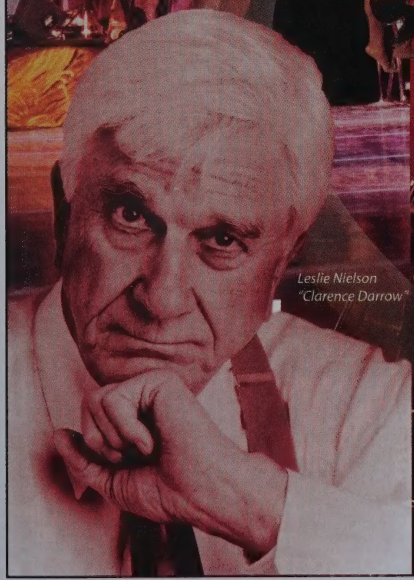
Leslie Nielson
"Clarence Darrow"

Les Ballet Trocadero de Monte Carlo

SEE IT FERST

**Leslie Nielson** "Clarence Darrow" September 13-14, 1999
**Tokyo String Quartet**, September 29, 1999
**James Galway**, October 12, 1999
**Huggabug Club**, October 17, 1999
**British Rock Symphony**, November 1, 1999
**San Francisco Opera–"Don Giovanni"**, November 6, 1999
**B.J. Ward "Stand-Up Opera"**, January 11, 2000
**Chicago City Limits**, January 14-15, 2000
**Robert McDuffie**, January 25, 2000
**Parsons Dance Company**, February 3-4, 2000
**Cirque Eloize**, February 11-12, 2000
**Swingtime**, March 2, 2000
**St. Petersburg, Russia State Ice Ballet "Romeo & Juliet"**, March 11-12, 2000
**Les Ballet Trockadero de Monte Carlo**, April 5, 2000
**New York City Opera, "Barber of Seville"**, April 8, 2000
**The Romeros**, April 12, 2000

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Parsons Dance Company
Tokyo String Quartet
James Galway

ROBERT FERST CENTER FOR THE ARTS
GEORGIA TECH

Cont'd from pg. 44

### Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Special Concert
Marin Alsop, conductor
***July 18, 8 p.m.***
*Cascade United Methodist Church*
*3144 Cascade Rd., Atlanta*
*404-691-5770*

### Lilith Fair
Featuring Indigo Girls, Sarah McLachlan, Pretenders, Mya and Suzanne Vega.
***July 23, 4:30 p.m.***
*Lakewood Amphitheatre*
*TicketMaster 404-249-6400*

### Lilith Fair
Featuring Sarah McLachlan, Sheryl Crow, Indigo Girls, Mya and Me'shell N'dgeocello.
***July 24, 4:30 p.m.***
*Lakewood Amphitheatre*
*TicketMaster 404-249-6400*

### Wynonna
***July 24, 8 p.m.***
*Chastain Park, 404-733-4800*

### Aretha Franklin
The queen of soul.
***July 25, 8 p.m.***
*Chastain Park*
*TicketMaster 404-249-6400*

### Tim McGraw with the Dixie Chicks and Deryl Dodd
***July 25, 8 p.m.***
*Lakewood Amphitheatre*
*TicketMaster 404-249-6400*

### Brian Setzer Orchestra
***July 28, 8 p.m.***
*Chastain Park, 404-733-4800*

### Summer Sensations at Symphony Hall
Blast Off! The Space Experience. Yoel Levi, conductor.
***July 29, 31 8 p.m.***
*Woodruff Arts Center, 404-733-5000*

### The Tops & The Temptations
***July 30, 31***
*Chastain Park, 404-733-4800*

### Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Free Concert
Yoel Levi, conductor
***Aug. 1, 7:30 p.m.***
*Centennial Park, 404-733-5000*

### Sloan Wainwright and Eric Garrison
Sloan is the sister of Loudon Wainwright III, artsy folk.
***Aug. 3, 8 p.m.***
*Eddie's Attic*
*515-B N. McDonough St., Decatur*
*404-377-4976*

Wynonna makes July even hotter at Chastain Park July 24.

### The Abduction– The Exotic Experience!
Director Yoel Levi and the ASO perform one of Mozart's most famous opera scores, "The Abduction from the Seraglio."
***Aug 5, 7, 8 p.m.***
*Atlanta Symphony Hall, 1293 Peachtree St.*
*404-733-5000*

Cont'd on pg. 46 ▶

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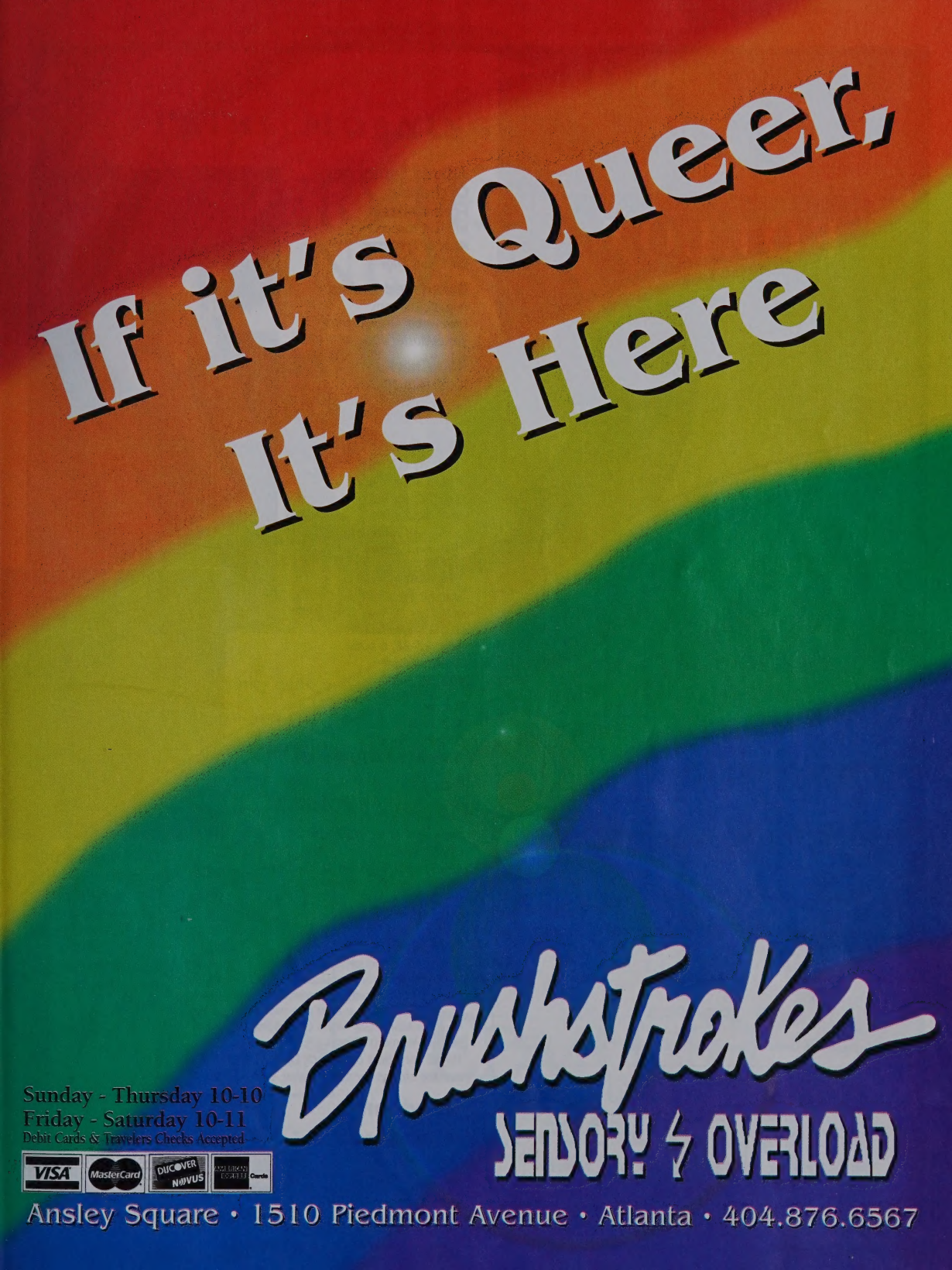
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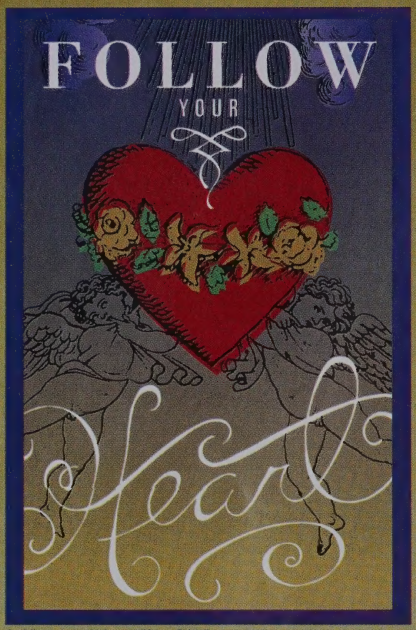


***THE CAPULETS AND THE MONTAGUES***
by Vincenzo Bellini
Thurs., June 10, 1999 at 8 pm • Sat., June 12, 1999 at 7:30 pm
Sun., June 13, 1999 at 3 pm

***LA BOHÈME*** by Giacomo Puccini
Thurs., Sept. 9, 1999 at 8 pm • Sat., Sept. 11, 1999 at 7:30 pm
Sun., Sept. 12, 1999 at 3 pm

***SAMSON AND DELILAH*** by Camille Saint-Saëns
Thurs., Oct. 21, 1999 at 8 pm • Sat., Oct. 23, 1999 at 7:30 pm
Sun., Oct. 24, 1999 at 3 pm

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Cont'd from pg. 44

**Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Free Concert**
Jere Flint, conductor
***Aug. 8, 7:30 p.m.***
*Piedmont Park*

**Barenaked Ladies**
Aug. 10, 7:30 p.m.
*Lakewood Amphitheatre*
*TicketMaster 404-249-6400*

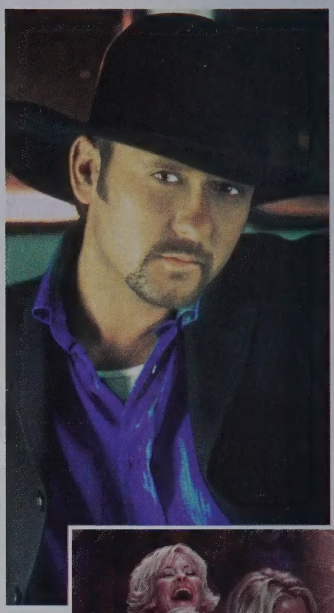
**Ray Charles**
***Aug. 18, 8:30 p.m.***
*Chastain Park*
*404-733-4800*

**'N Sync with Jordan Knight**
Aug. 27 show sold out.
***Aug. 26, 7:30 p.m., $41.00-$26.00***
*Lakewood Amphitheatre*
*TicketMaster 404-249-6400*

**B.B. King Blues Music Festival**
with Tower of Power, Kenny Wayne Shepherd
***Aug. 27-28, 6 p.m.***
*Chastain Park*
*404-733-4800*

**R.E.M.**
Aug. 29-31
*Chastain Park*
*TicketMaster 404-249-6400*

**Halcyon**
Female acoustic duo from Tampa, featured at Pride '98.
***Sept. 4, 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m.***
*Eddie's Attic*
*515-B N. McDonough St., Decatur*
*404-377-4976*



Tim McGraw pairs with the Dixie Chicks July 25 at Lakewood Amphitheatre to make a multi Country Music Award winner night.

## radio

***WABE 90.1 FM**
Programming throughout June will include music by LGBT composers and musicians. Joshua Levs will interview local LGBT artists and entertainers. John Lemley's *Tapestry* on June 27 at 8:00 p.m. will feature selections from the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus and the Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus.
*WABE members can check Options for times or call the station for information. 678-686-0321*

## television

***After Stonewall: From the Riots to the Millennium**
Chronicles the history of GLBT life from the Stonewall Riots in 1969 to the twilight of the twentieth century.
WPBA TV 30
***June 10, 8 p.m.***

Cont'd on pg. 48 ▶

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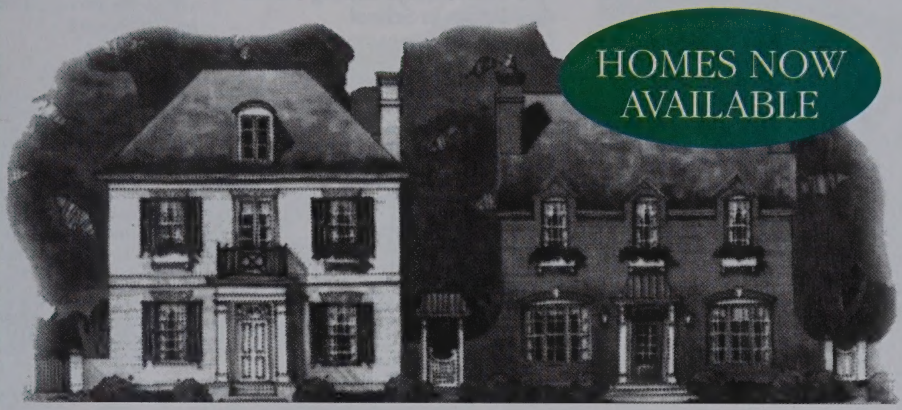


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Cont'd from pg. 46

### *Before Stonewall
An Emmy Award winning film that surveys LGBT history from the early twentieth century up to Stonewall. WPBA TV 30
***June 10, 10:30 p.m.***

The man who gave Georgia its song, Ray Charles graces Chastain Park Aug. 14.

### *The Castro
A Peabody Award winning documentary that recalls how a quiet working class San Francisco neighborhood of European Immigrants gave way to a new community that eventually became an international symbol of gay liberation. WPBA TV 30
***June 26, 9 p.m.***

### *Growing Up Gay
Draws from the expertise of sex education specialist Brian McNaught to weave a story around the challenges appendant to growing up gay in a heterosexual world. WPBA TV 30
***June 26, 10:30 p.m.***

### *It's Elementary: Talking About Gay Issues in School
Demonstrates what can happen when teachers address LGBT issues with their students in a way young people can identify with. WPBA TV 30
***June 30***

## theater

### The Importance of Being Earnest
Oscar Wilde's highly acclaimed comedy performed with three actors who will quick change their way through the eccentric characters and situations.
***Through May 30***
*14th Street Playhouse*
*404-876-9762*

### Crumbs From the Table of Joy
The Alliance Theatre Company presents this story of an African-American family leaving the South for the promised land of Harlem in the 1950s.
***Through June 20***
*The Alliance Studio Theatre*
*Woodruff Arts Center*
*1280 Peachtree St. NE*
*404-733-5000*

### A Doll's House
This is a new translation by Frank McGuinness of Henrik Ibsen's classic tale of a woman facing the lie that her marriage has marriage has become. So shocking in its release over a century ago, the play was banned from the stage.
***May 21-June 19***
*Actor's Express*
*King Plow Art Center*
*887 West Marietta St.*
*404-607-7469*

### Arcadia
A comedy by Tom Stoppard, the writer of *Shakespeare in Love,* examines literature, sex and science with humor as the present generation searches for clues to the lives of the inhabitants of the 19th century estate.
***Through June 27***
*The Alliance Theatre*
*Woodruff Art Center, 1280 Peachtree St.*
*404-733-5000*

Cont'd on pg. 50 ▶


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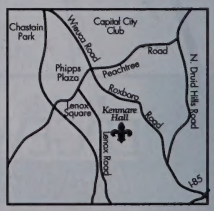

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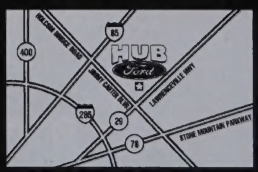


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Cont'd from pg. 48

### New South for the New Century Play Festival

This first annual play festival celebrates the voices of the South as two mainstage plays and a collection of readings are all for, about and from the South.

***June 4-July 3***
*Horizon Theatre, 1083 Austin Ave.*
*404-584-7450*

### The Capulets and the Montagues

The Atlanta Opera's production of this classic romantic tale of warring families and tortured lovers is the Southeastern premiere of this *bel canto.*

***June 10, 12 and 13***
*The Fox Theatre, 600 Peachtree St.*
*404-355-3311 or 1-800-35-OPERA*

### *The Odd Couple

Christ Covenant produces this gender-bending version of Neil Simon's classic at the Discovery Arena of the Neighborhood Playhouse. $10

***June 10-13 & June 17-18***
*Neighborhood Playhouse, 430 W. Trinity Pl.*
*404-373-2933*

### *Frederick Hohenzollern

The world premiere of this opera based upon the life of Frederick the Great of Germany also benefits local AIDS organizations. The story involves the relationship between Frederick and the Prussian army officer Lt. Hans Katte.

***June 24***
*Clayton College & State University*
*Spivey Hall, Morrow, Georgia*
*770-961-3683*

### Crazy for You

This Gershwin musical comedy, which won the 1992 Tony Award for Best Musical, follows a struggling performer who finds his true talent and love in a small town in Arkansas.

***June 15-20***
*The Fox Theatre, 660 Peachtree St.*
*404-817-8700*

Annie Sprinkle examines sex in society, the human body and personal growth with a sense of humor Aug 4-8 at 7 Stages Theatre in Little Five Points.

### South Pacific

Theater of the Stars presents this classic tale of a young nurse who falls in love with a French painter against the backdrop of war.

***June 22-27***
*The Fox Theatre, 660 Peachtree St.*
*404-817-8700*

### The Comedy of Errors

The Georgia Shakespeare Festival performs this comedy of illusion, with two sets of twins and mistaken identity.

***June 25-29***
*The Conant Performing Arts Center at Oglethorpe University*
*4484 Peachtree Rd.*
*404-264-0020*

### Cotton Patch Gospel

This musical drama is the story of the Gospel relocated to rural Georgia and presented with an original score by Harry Chapin.

***July 14-Aug 1***
*The Rialto Center for the Performing Arts*
*80 Forsyth St.*
*404-651-4727*

### *What the Butler Saw

This satiric examination of sexual and psychological exploration is famous gay English playwright Joe Orton's final play, and often considered his most perfect farce.

***June 18-July 17, 8 p.m. or 5 p.m.***
*Dad's Garage Theater*
*280 Elizabeth St., Suite C-101*
*404-523-3141*

### Always ... Patsy Cline

A devoted fan and close fan pays tribute to the legendary country/western singer and the music that she made famous.

***July 7-Aug 9***
*Theatre in the Square*
*11 Whitlock Ave.*
*Marietta*
*770-422-8369*

### *Rescue and Recovery

Actor's Express presents the world premiere of Steve Murray's new play—a comedy about love, loss and the difficulty of finding a good mate.

***July 8-Aug 14***
*Actor's Express*
*King Plow Arts Center*
*887 W. Marietta St., Suite J-107*
*404-607-SHOW*

### Sweet Charity

Dancer, choreographer and international singer Paula Abdul stars in this story of a taxi driver determined to find love. Originally adapted from a book by writer Neil Simon.

***Aug 3-8***
*The Fox Theatre, 660 Peachtree St.*
*404-817-8700*

### Herstory of Porn: Reel to Real

Annie Sprinkle traces her 25-year evolution through clips from some of her 200 movies. In this sexually graphic solo performance, Sprinkle examines sex in society, the human body and personal growth with a sense of humor.

***Aug 4-8***
*7 Stages Theatre, 1105 Euclid Ave*
*404-523-7647*

### Smoke On the Mountain

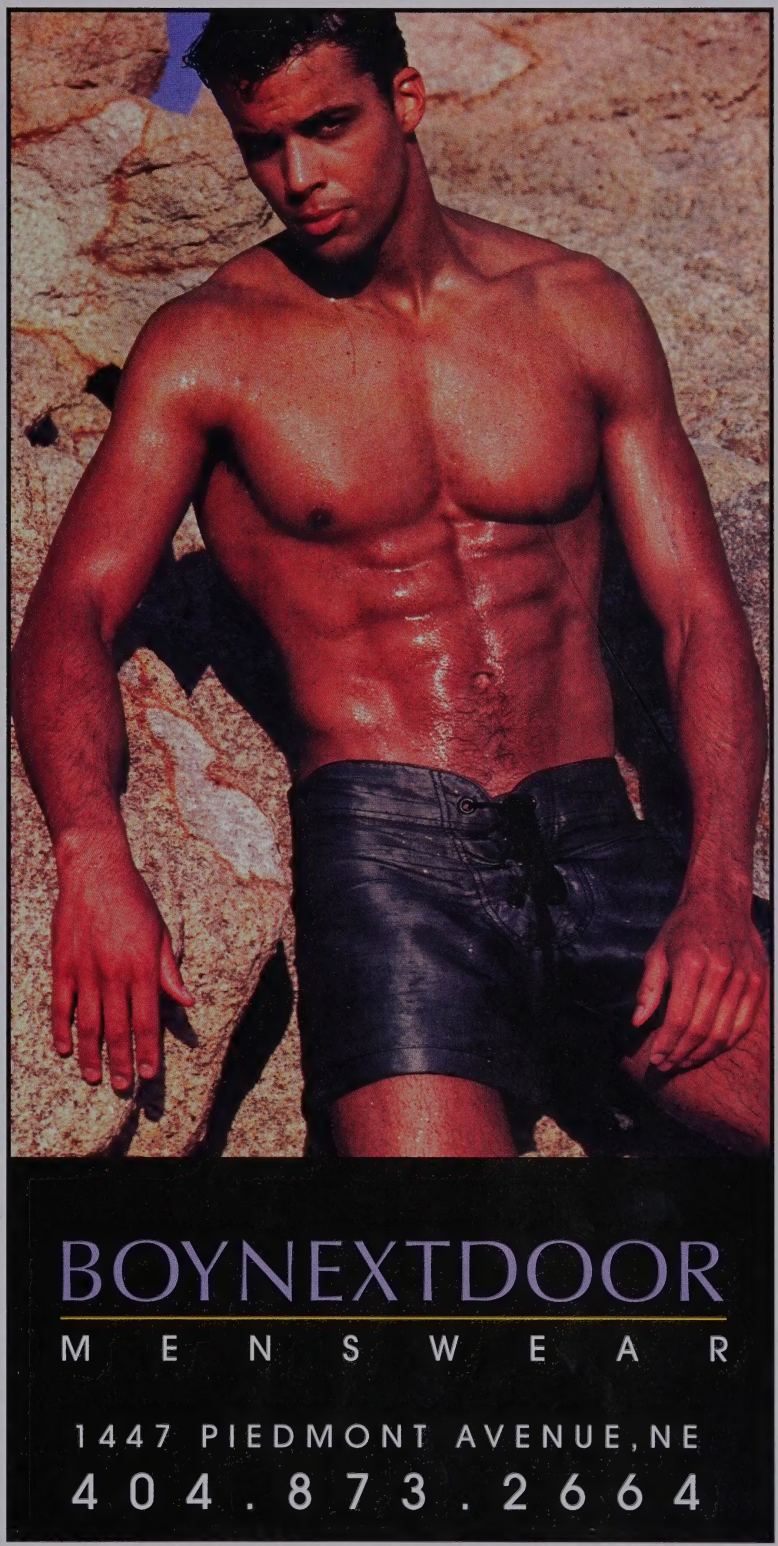
Theatre in the Square produces this interactive favorite in which members of the audience become the congregation of a rural Baptist church for a concert of bluegrass tunes performed by a quirky family of gospel singers.

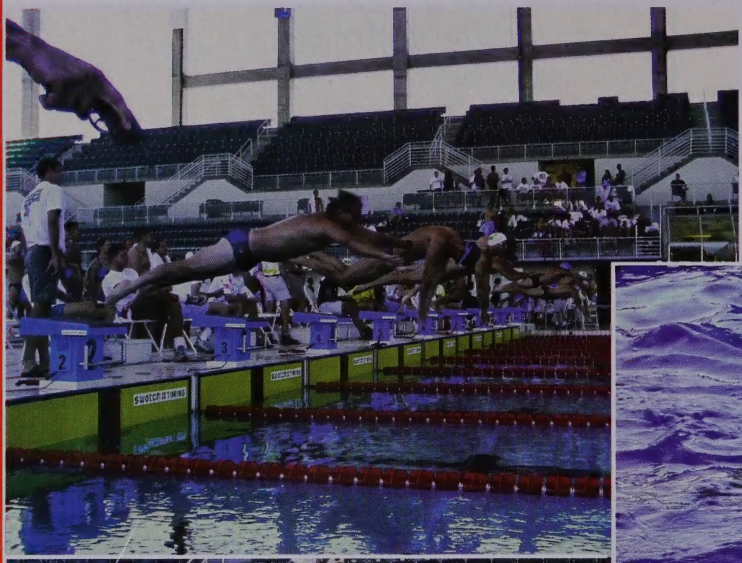
***Aug. 5-22***
*Kennesaw State Univ. Stillwell Theater*
*770-422-8369*

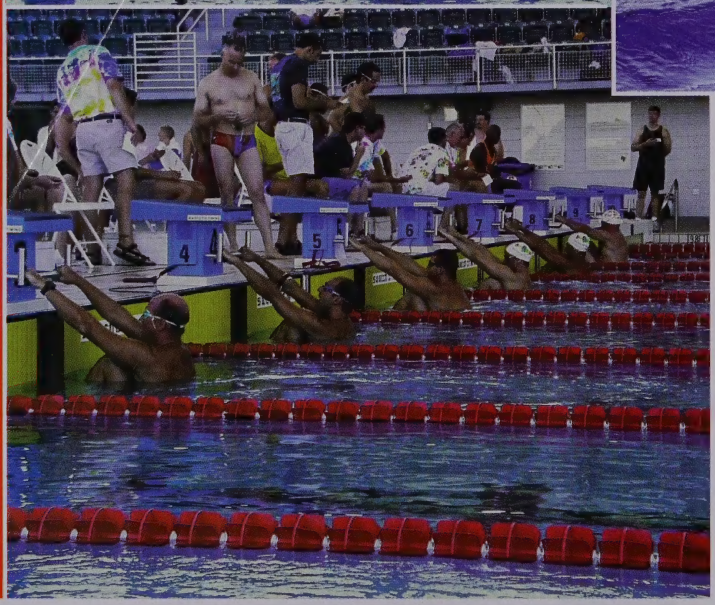
### Chess

Musical story of romance and intrigue surrounding the players in a high-stakes game of chess. Lyrics by Tim Rice. Songs include "One Night in Bangkok" and "I Know Him So Well."

***Opens Aug. 26***
*The Alliance Theatre*
*Woodruff Art Center, 1280 Peachtree St.*
*404-733-5000*





The Atlanta Rainbow Trout got a taste of hosting and organizing a swim meet with last year's Freedom Swim '98 (Left, top and bottom).

Swimmer Tom Jurek (below) is an example of the friendly atmosphere of teamwork the Trout encourage.

## *Atlanta's Rainbow Trout Hosts International Swim Meet*

By Matt Montgomery

Christopher Lee is no stranger to swimming competitions. He's been treading water since he was an 11-year-old in Pensacola, Fla., and he formerly captained the University of Georgia swim team.

But this summer he will get a second chance at an experience he's only had once before—competing in an international swimming competition for gay and lesbian swimmers.

"To stand on that block and be out. It is much different from the other competitions. Before I wasn't swimming as myself. Now I swim with more of a freedom," he said.

Lee, one of the 130 members of the Atlanta gay and lesbian swim team, Atlanta Rainbow Trout, will join his teammates in hosting the International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics (IGLA) Championships on June 18-20 at the Georgia Tech Aquatics Center.

Swimmers from around the globe will brave the Southern sun in Atlanta to participate in the international competition. The organizers expect more than 1,000 swimmers, divers and water polo players to compete in the event, which has previously been held in Montreal, San Diego, New York and Washington, D.C.

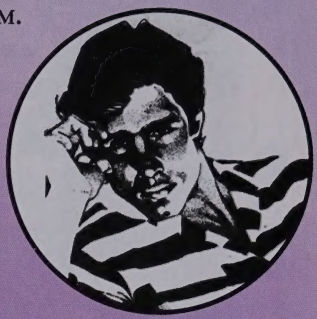
This is the first time the meet has been held in the South, and organizers hope to host the first women's water polo international competition by attracting enough women players for three or four teams. Requests for applications from 15 different countries have been submitted, including one from the French team Paris Aquitique. Paris will host IGLA 2000.

The competition is open to any master swimmer, a swimmer who is 18 or older and registered with a master's team.

The Atlanta team is pleased to host the event, notes Meet Director John

**Cont'd on pg. 54 ▶**

Freddy was there all week and finally went home alone Monday morning around 11:00AM.



Saturday, Steve was seen dancing shirtless for 10 hours, that is until he meet Rick.

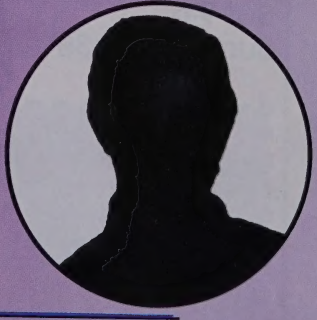
Fiona arrived with Chuck on Friday. ...
She lost him after meeting Betty in the Cabaret.

Betty left with Fiona Saturday afternoon and was never heard from again.

Chuck lasted two hours. He didn't understand.

Kyle: He stood. He modeled. He danced.
He drank. He had a really good time.

Sam was 'Just in for the week-end' –again.



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404-286-6131

**Cont'd from pg. 52**

Brown, because it demonstrates the rising reputation and growth of the relatively young organization. Brown, one of the founders of the Trout, helped to start the team in 1995 with nine swimmers. Now the team can boast that it's the largest masters team in the state.

Proclaiming the Rainbow Trout "one of the best masters swimming programs," Brown attributes the success of the group to the inclusive nature of the team, the dedication of the coaches and the quality of the facilities at Georgia Tech. Brown explained that often novice swimmers get involved and discover the intrinsic personal fitness benefits and sense of achievement associated with competing. Brown has been swimming for 25 years and explains that "I didn't go out to make a big statement but wanted to create a place for gay and lesbian swimmers who might not be comfortable competing with straight teams."

Lee pointed to the diversity of skill levels and backgrounds as one of the primary strengths of the organization. "We work hard to win, but the closeness of the team is very deep," said Lee.

"We've rejuvenated the masters swimming scene in Georgia," Brown said, noting the atmosphere of acceptance that the team has experienced competing against straight teams in Georgia.

The public is invited to volunteer or watch the competition all day Friday, Saturday and Sunday. All three competitions will be held in the Tech facilities. The Saturday competition will be followed by what is called "The Pink Flamingo," an entertainment portion based on the theme, "Hot Donna Summers Nights." The event often takes on a "Broadway meets Esther Williams" feel, said Brown.

Other social activities include a "Southern Deca-Dance" at Masquerade nightclub on Saturday night to give the participants the chance to meet the other swimmers. An IGLA Bar Card will be available for competitors who want a taste of Atlanta nightlife. Trout members will also open their homes to guests either for dinners or accommodations. An awards banquet will be held on Sunday at the Georgia Railroad Freight Depot. ▼


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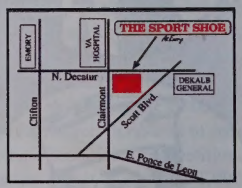


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# BEAT THE HEAT

PHOTO BY KES

## *Tips for the Athletically Inclined When the Mercury Rises*

By Paige Parvin

As the weather heats up, it's time for gay Atlanta to hit the park and the streets, seeking sunshine and fresh air after the dark, stormy spring. So we swarm the open spaces in very little clothing, showing off the new puppy, new biceps and abs, new rollerblades, new tattoo, new tan … And we look damn good doing it.

With all this outdoor activity, it's the time of year when many may become inspired to exercise. Whether you're a naturally health-conscious, active type, or just hit by your annual case of spring fever (when you are madly active for about two weeks); whether looking to drop a few pounds, or just get in shape for all those hours you'll be spending on the dance floor—there are some things you should know about exercising in hot weather.

Atlanta heat should be taken seriously, according to Dr. James Cruse, a local family practitioner. If you're suddenly driven to exercise, understand that at first, your body may not be quite as enthusiastic as your brain.

"If you are not used to exercising, don't start on a hot day," cautioned Dr. Cruse. "It takes your body about seven days to acclimatize to the heat. Start with no more than 30 minutes and build up gradually."

And of course, it's crucial to stay hydrated. When exercising in the heat, you should drink 8-12 ounces of water or fluids every 20-30 minutes, said Dr. Cruse. Despite the myths about warm water being more beneficial than cold, Cruse said ice water is good: the cooler the better. Sports drinks are even more advantageous, since they help replace valuable electrolytes and salt lost through excessive sweating.


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To do list

- ☑ Repeal Sodomy Law
- ☐ Pass Hate Crimes Bill
- ☐ Pass Employment Non-discrimination Act
- ☐ Pass Gay and Lesbian Right to Marry Bill
- ☐ Secure Domestic Partner Benefits for All
- ☐ Expand Adoption Rights

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PHOTO BY CINDY SPROUL

Parishioners at St. Mark United Methodist Church offer a water break to Pride paraders.

Heat and alcohol are a bad combination, said Cruse. Don't drink alcohol before or after exercising. Drug use, especially drugs like cocaine and ecstasy, increases the body's heat production and puts the user at higher risk for heat-related illness—even if used the night before, said Cruse.

"You would think that not drinking would be common sense, but you'd be surprised—that's why there's so much heat exhaustion at events like Pride," explained Dr. Cruse.

Also, it's important not to wear restrictive clothing, Cruse added.

**Rules of thumb for physical activity in hot weather:**

- **Fluids:** The key to staying cool is drinking lots of fluids. By the time the brain signals thirst, the body is already 2-3 percent dehydrated. So drink plenty of non-alcoholic beverages before, during and after outdoor activities. Sports drinks, fruit juice and plain water are best for hydrating the body in hot weather.
- **Restrictions:** Limit alcohol and caffeine intake, especially in the daytime heat. If alcohol or caffeine are consumed, drink extra water before and after to compensate for the dehydrating effects.
- **Food:** Eat regular meals to keep energy high and replace salt lost through excess perspiration. Fruit and vegetables are especially good on hot days, while carbohydrates help give the body the energy required for strenuous activity.
- **Clothing:** Wear light, thin, loose-fitting cotton clothes. A light-colored long-sleeved T-shirt will protect you from the sun and help keep you cool, said Cruse. This is not the time to wear tight spandex and lycra! Loosen clothing as heat builds.
- **Rest:** Take regular rest breaks to cool down and drink more liquids. Also be sure to get adequate rest at night.

Cont'd on pg. 58 ▶

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**Cont'd from pg. 57**

The symptoms of heat-related illness include weakness, dizziness, headache, muscle cramps, excessive sweating, thirst, chills and goose bumps, rapid breathing, loss of appetite, nausea and/or vomiting, confusion, and tingling of the hands and/or feet.

**If symptoms of heat-related illness arise, take immediate action:**

- Stop activity
- Get to a cool spot in shade or air-conditioning
- Loosen clothing, spray body with cold water, and fan
- Slowly drink at least one quart of cool water
- Submerge yourself in cool water if possible
- Don't exercise again for at least 24 hours
- Seek medical aid if symptoms persist

If you have been sweating, but suddenly stop, you should seek medical help, said Cruse. This means your body can no longer regulate its own temperature and it could soar as high as 110 degrees, causing loss of consciousness, coma and even death in extreme cases.

People who are more susceptible to heat-related illness, said Cruse, include people using alcohol or drugs, those taking medication for high blood pressure, those with a serious weight problem, and other medical problems such as persistent diarrhea or vomiting, heart or kidney difficulties.

Veteran runner Jim Cane, race director for the annual Pride Run and a member of the club Frontrunners, offered some tricks of the trade he's learned from experience.

One way to beat the heat, said Cane, is to plan your exercise routine so it coincides with the cooler times of the day.

"I typically try to run early in the morning, or late at night, not in the heat of the day," said Cane. "I also like to run in shaded areas."

Cane added that on longer runs, he tries to plan water breaks, even planting water bottles along the route if there aren't convenient stops.

Heat isn't the only danger from the sun, he reminds summer runners. "When you're running you often don't notice sunburn until you're finished and dried off, so wearing sunscreen is very important."

Night runners and walkers should remember to wear reflective clothing and try to stick to wide roads with plenty of room for pedestrians.

Finally, Cane said it's important to pay attention to your body and don't push beyond your limits. ▼

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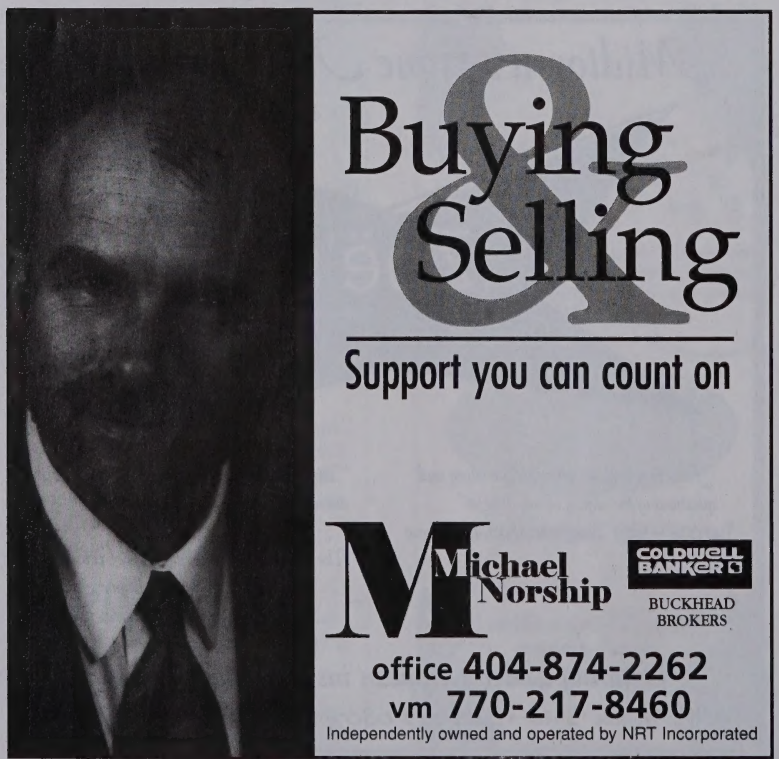



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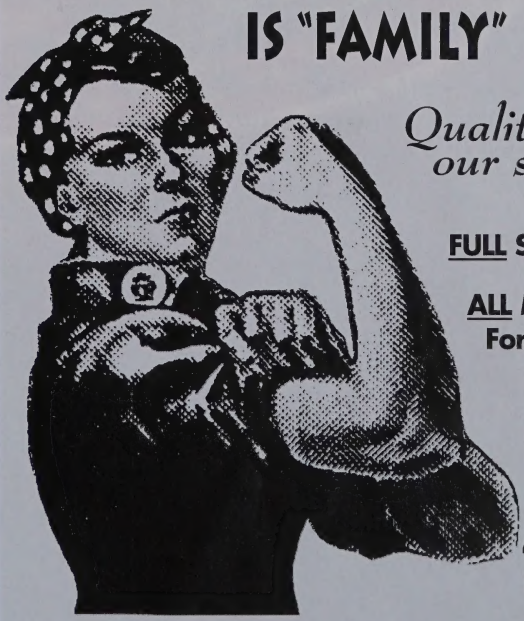

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SUMMER SIMMER

*If You're Tired of Your Old Summer Standbys, Try Something New This Season*

by Damon Fowler

By mid-summer, a Georgia kitchen is no place for sissies. Even with the air conditioner set on deep freeze, the heat wins. But while this makes cooking a challenge, it doesn't mean we must succumb to an endless rotation of vichyssoise, salad, that clever little blender gazpacho, and grilled salmon. Salad, cold soup, and grilled food are mainstays of summer's table, but even on the hottest day a hot dish can be welcome.

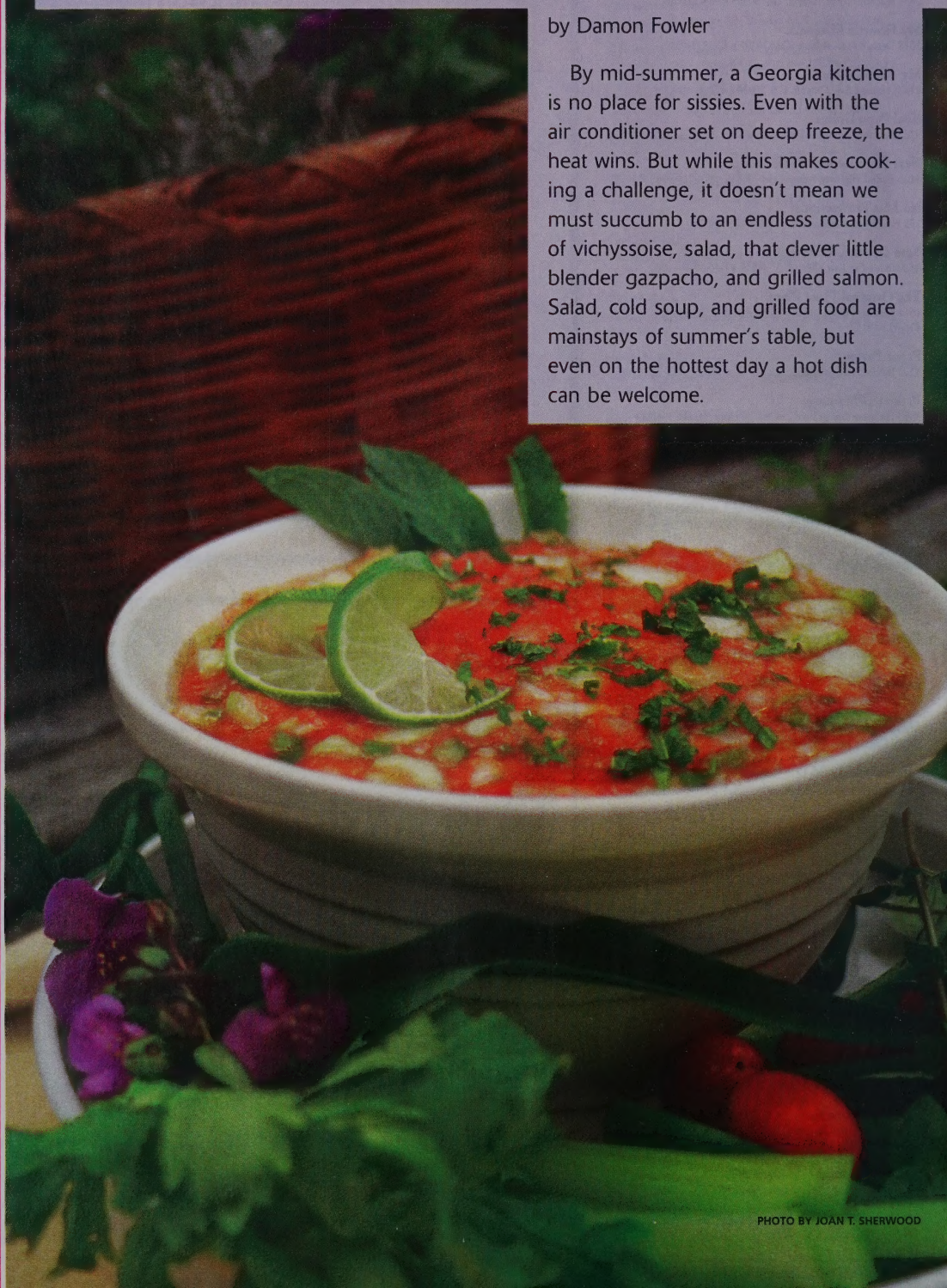

PHOTO BY JOAN T. SHERWOOD

The keys to surviving the summer kitchen are two: simplicity and produce. Armed with such techniques as a quick sauté, a gentle poach, a light broil and even an occasional deep-fry (especially if you can do it outdoors), it's possible to supplement the chilled and the grilled without having heat stroke. Summer fruits and vegetables respond perfectly to this simplicity, since they don't need to be tarted up to make them taste good.

### MINTED GAZPACHO

A good gazpacho should fight back with plenty of texture. That's why those babyfood, blender versions are never very interesting. It's worth taking the time to cut the vegetables up by hand.

*Serves 8*

**4 pounds ripe tomatoes (do not use canned)**
**1 large sweet onion, preferably Vidalia**
**2 medium cucumbers**
**2 medium green bell peppers**
**1 fresh green hot pepper**
**1/4 cup fresh lime juice**
**1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil**
**Salt and black pepper in a peppermill**
**2 tablespoons chopped fresh mint**

1. Peel the tomatoes with a vegetable peeler. Core them, and, working over a wire sieve set over a bowl, cut each in half, scoop out the seeds into the sieve and let the juice drain into the bowl. Roughly chop the tomatoes. Put half in a bowl that will later hold all the ingredients and puree the remaining half with the reserved juice in a blender or food processor. Add the puree to the chopped tomatoes.

2. Split in half, skin and cut the onion into fairly small dice. Peel and dice the cucumbers. Stem, seed, and trim the membranes from both types of peppers. Cut the bell pepper into small dice; mince the hot pepper. Add all the vegetables to the tomatoes.

3. Add the lime juice, olive oil, a healthy pinch or so of salt, several grindings of pepper, and stir until blended. Cover and let stand at room temperature for two hours, or refrigerate overnight. Before serving, taste and correct the seasonings. If it was refrigerated, let it sit at room temperature for an hour before serving. Garnish each serving with chopped mint.

Cont'd on pg. 64 ▶

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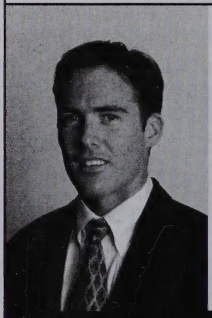
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Cont'd from pg. 63

**OKRA IN OLIVE OIL**

Integral to the summer cooking of not only the South, but of Africa and the Middle East as well, okra is a lovely vegetable that is rarely allowed to shine on it's own. If you think you hate okra, just wait until you taste it cooked this way.

*Serves 4*

**1-1/2 pounds very fresh okra pods no more than 2 inches long**
**1 large clove garlic, lightly crushed and peeled**
**2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil**
**Salt and black pepper in a peppermill**

1. Wash the okra under cold running water, gently rubbing it to remove the fuzz that coats the outside of the pod. Leave the pods whole–only, trimming the cut stem tip of the cap.

2. Put the okra in a heavy, lidded skillet that will hold them all in one layer. Add 1/4 cup water, the garlic, a tablespoon of the olive oil, a liberal pinch of salt and a few grindings of pepper. Cover the pan and turn on the heat to high. Cook for about four (no more than five) minutes, until the okra pods are crisp-tender but still bright green. Do not let the sauce dry up or the okra brown.

3. Pour the okra into a serving bowl, remove and discard the garlic, drizzle with the remaining olive oil, toss well, and serve warm or at room temperature.

Cont'd on pg. 66 ▶

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# SUMMER SIMMER

PHOTO BY JOAN T. SHERWOOD

Cont'd from pg. 64

### GREEK FRIED CHICKEN
### (Kotopoulo Tiganito Marinato)

Yes, Greek fried chicken. Just the thing for the Pride day picnic. Juniper berries are available in the spice section of most health food grocers and specialty markets. If you can't find them, throw in a tablespoon of gin. I know you have that in the house.

*Serves 4 to 5*

**1 3-pound frying chicken, skinned and cut up for frying**
**1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil**
**1/2 cup fresh lemon juice**
**1/2 cup dry white wine**
**2 large cloves garlic, crushed, peeled and minced**
**1 small onion, thinly sliced**
**1 bay leaf, crumbled**
**1 tablespoon chopped fresh (or 1 teaspoon dried) oregano**
**6 juniper berries, crushed**
**6 coriander seeds, crushed**
**Salt and black pepper in a peppermill**
**1 cup all-purpose flour**
**Olive or peanut oil (or a combination), for frying**

1. Rinse the chicken, pat dry, and place it in a large glass or non-reactive stainless bowl. In a separate bowl, combine the olive oil, lemon juice, wine, garlic, onion, bay leaf, oregano, juniper berries, coriander seeds, a large pinch of salt and a few liberal grindings of pepper. Whisk until well mixed and pour over the chicken. Toss until it is uniformly coated with the marinade. Set aside for two hours or cover, refrigerate and marinate overnight.

2. Drain the chicken, pat dry, and sprinkle liberally with salt. Spread the flour on a plate or place it in a brown paper or large plastic zip-lock bag. Put enough olive or peanut oil (or combination of both) into a deep, large skillet to come halfway up the sides. Turn on the heat to medium-high and heat the oil to 375°.

3. When the oil is hot, but not smoking, roll the chicken (beginning with the legs and thighs) in the flour or drop it a few pieces at a time into the bag of flour, seal the top, and shake until coated. Shake off the excess flour and slip the chicken into the hot fat.

4. Fry until the bottom is sealed and beginning to color, about four minutes. Turn, and brown the second side. Reduce the heat to medium (325°) and fry, turning once, until the chicken is cooked through and golden, about 15 minutes more. Lift from the fat with tongs or a skimmer and drain well on a wire rack. Great hot or at room temperature.

Note: This chicken is also great grilled: don't skin it; omit the flour and prepare a charcoal fire. When it is burned down and lightly ashed over, position the grill rack about six inches above the coals. Grill the chicken, basting it occasionally with equal parts olive oil and lemon juice, until it is tender and the juices run clear, about 12 to 15 minutes per side.

Cont'd on pg. 68 ▶


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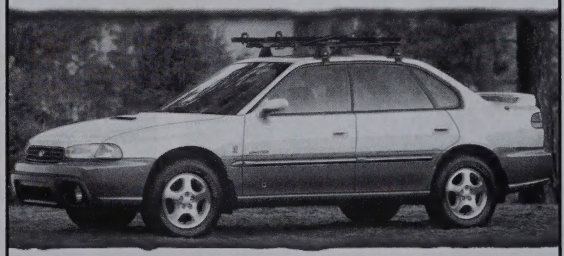

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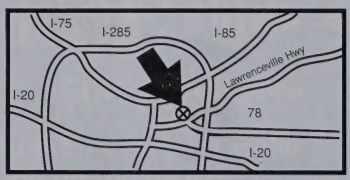


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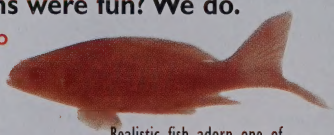

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PHOTO BY JOAN T. SHERWOOD

## GRILLED GREEN TOMATOES

Green tomatoes take well to grilling, and their bright, tart flavor lends a pleasant accent to that Greek chicken, whether you fry it or grill it. You may also broil the tomatoes in the oven, but they will not have as much flavor.

*Serves 4*

**2 large green tomatoes**
**Salt and sugar**
**2 tablespoons bacon drippings, melted, or olive oil**
**Ground cayenne pepper and black pepper in a peppermill**

1. Wash the tomatoes and split them in half crosswise. Sprinkle lightly with salt and a tiny pinch of sugar. Invert them in a colander and let them stand in the sink for 30 minutes.

2. Prepare a charcoal fire or preheat the broiler. When the fire is ready, wipe the tomatoes well and brush them with the drippings or oil. Sprinkle with a little more salt, a small pinch of cayenne, and a few grindings of black pepper.

3. Grill them cut-side down (or broil cut-side up), about four inches from the heat source, until the they begin to brown, about five to eight minutes. Turn and brush with more drippings or oil (if you are using the broiler, do not turn them, but watch to make sure they don't get too brown). Grill until tender, another eight to 12 minutes, and serve hot.

Cont'd on pg. 70 ▶

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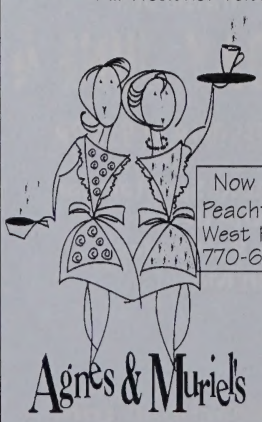

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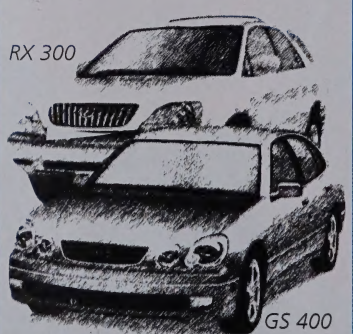


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Cont'd from pg. 68

PHOTO BY JOAN T. SHERWOOD

## WATERMELON SALAD

This is a refreshing and unusual Greek salad that's perfect with that fried chicken. Watermelon is a perfect foil for peppery-sweet Vidalia onion and salty feta cheese.

*Serves 6*

**1/4 cup wine vinegar**
**Salt and black pepper in a peppermill**
**1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil**
**2 tablespoons chopped fresh mint**
**8 cups watermelon cut into bite-sized chunks**
**1 medium sweet onion, preferably Vidalia, thinly sliced**
**4 ounces feta cheese, crumbled**
**6 whole sprig mint, for garnish**

1. Put the vinegar in a bowl. Add a large pinch of salt and several grindings of pepper, and whisk until the salt is dissolved. Slowly whisk in the oil a few drops at a time. Stir in the chopped mint. Taste, correct the seasonings, and set aside.

2. Combine the melon, onion, and feta in a bowl, pour the dressing over them, and toss gently until they are coated and evenly mixed. Garnish with the sprigs of mint or divide the salad among individual salad plates and garnish each serving. Serve at once.

Cont'd on pg. 72 ▶

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Cont'd from pg. 70

## MACERATED PEACH AND BLUEBERRY COMPOTE

Peaches and blueberries have a great affinity for one another, and, when well-doused with a good Sourwood honey, take on a subtle, spicy flavor that is hard to describe, but not at all hard to eat. Make a lot; you'll need it.

*Serves 6*

**6 medium, very ripe peaches, preferably free-stones**
**1 tablespoon freshly squeezed lemon juice**
**2 cups (1 pint container, about 8 ounces) blueberries**
**1/2 cup (or to taste) honey, preferably sourwood**

1. Wash the peaches and rub them well to remove all the fuzz. You don't actually need to peel them, but many object to the peeling, so you can do so if you must. Halve them and remove the pits, then cut them lengthwise into thick wedges. Put them in a stainless or glass bowl that will hold all the ingredients, sprinkle with lemon juice to prevent them from discoloring, toss well, and set aside.

2. Rinse the blueberries well and pick through them to remove any stems and bad fruit. Add them to the peaches. Add the honey to taste, and toss until the fruit is well-coated. Cover and set in the refrigerator to macerate for at least an hour. Serve cold–alone–or with vanilla ice cream. ▼

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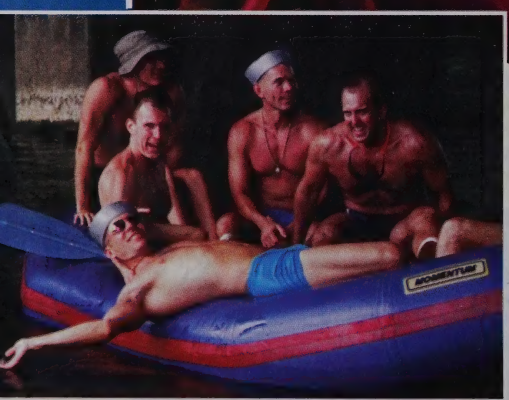
# HOTLANTA RIVER EXPO



PHOTOS BY TIM WILKERSON

## *With August Comes the Mother of All Circuit Parties*

By David Goldman

Though Hotlanta River Expo may now seem like just one more stop on a gay social calendar clogged with dance-oriented circuit events held on practically every weekend throughout the year, it is actually much more.

This one is the real deal. Years before anyone would even coin the phrase "circuit party," Hotlanta was attracting an ever-growing body of men from across the country for a weekend of outrageous partying that earned it legendary status.

Last year for the 20th anniversary Hotlanta, some 3,500 men packed the Saturday night dance that is the weekend's centerpiece. That's a long way from the first year—1979, when 250 people came to the event in Atlanta, which was then just emerging as a mecca for gay people. Three hundred men came the second year; 500 the third.

The addition of more entertainment events gave visitors fun activities to choose from every night. The Miss Hotlanta Pageant was launched as a campy hoot—but now it's a major, Vegas-style show with a coveted crown. The first Mr. Hotlanta contestants strutted their stuff in the banquet room at the little Prince George Inn Restaurant—last year, the hunk parade

**Hotlanta River Expo**
404-874-3976
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filled the Fox Theatre's lavish Egyptian ballroom.

This year the weekend, themed "Rite of Passage," heads back downtown to the towering Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel August 12-15. For reservations, telephone 404-589-7748.

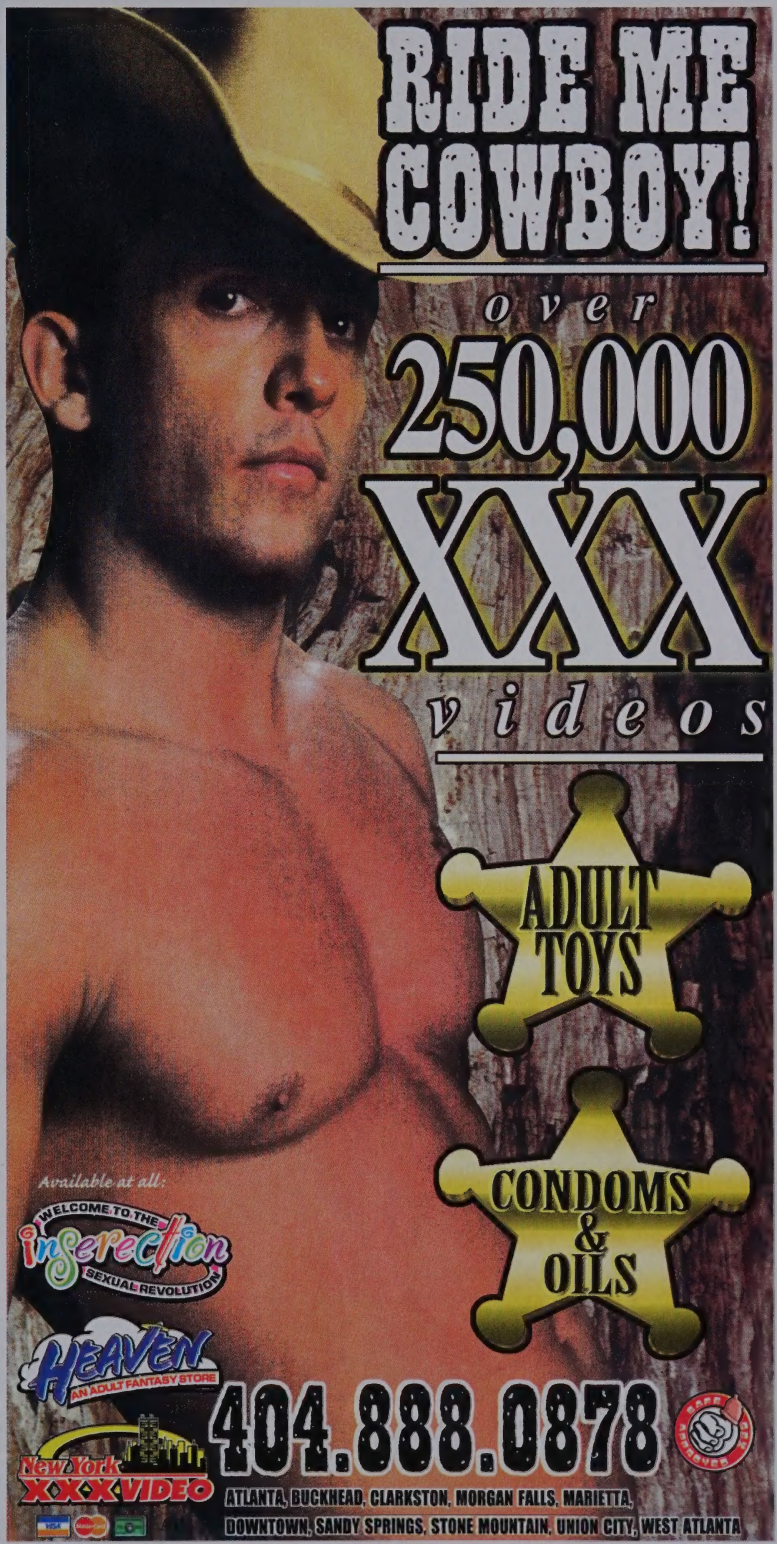
The weekend kicks off Thursday with the Miss Hotlanta Pageant. Atlantans who attend this event expecting to encounter a sea of strangers from across the country are often surprised to find themselves in the middle of "old home week"—the many former residents who return for the weekend and attend this show make it into a rocking reunion.

Friday night at the Fox Theatre's Egyptian Ballroom it's the Mr. Hotlanta Pageant, where beefy buds show off the results of all those hours on the Stairmaster. A dance follows the contest. Since most visitors never even see the Chattahoochee, they might be surprised to learn that yes, Mary, there really is a rafting component to this circuit party. This takes place on Saturday—but it ends in plenty of time for you to shower and get (un)dressed for the massive dance that is the weekend's main event. Sunday afternoon's tea dance gives everyone a chance to wind down and swap numbers and e-mail addresses before heading back to the real world.

There are two weekend passes to choose from. Silver ($125) gets you into the Mr. Hotlanta Pageant and dance, the Saturday night party and Sunday's tea dance. Gold ($155) buys your way into all Silver-level events, plus the Miss Hotlanta Pageant, the closing party and the actual raft drip down the 'Hooch. Prices are subject to change after July 15, when individual event tickets go on sale. ▼

SHER PRUITT

MayTag, Mr. Hotlanta contestant Bill Blumberg and Bubba D. Licious

PHOTOS BY SHER PRUITT

## *Black Gay Pride '99 Promises a 'Regal Event'*

By Laura Brown

"Return to Royalty: Reclaiming Our Heritage" will be the theme as thousands of black gay men and lesbians come to Atlanta for the city's annual Black Gay Pride celebration on Labor Day Weekend, Sept. 2-6.

Spending Labor Day in Atlanta had been a tradition among African-American gays for decades when In the Life Atlanta formed to offer a more structured educational and cultural component to the weekend.

Now in its fourth year, ITLA will produce a full schedule of activities to complement the other nightclub events and private parties. The Atlanta Renaissance Hotel will serve as the weekend's host hotel; the official "travel connection," Travel & Entertainment Management Group, can be reached at 901-375-4010.

A "Pride Pass" with access to ITLA events and discounts to area clubs can be purchased by contacting ITLA at (404) 872-6410, or on the web at www.inthelifeatl.com.

On Thursday, Sept. 2, ITLA and other community organizations will host the annual Candlelight Vigil and Remembrance Celebration, followed by the new Ms. Black Gay Pride International pageant, produced by Rainbow Investments.

Friday's events include the now traditional ITLA fashion show and kick-off party, along with special youth activities and a host of parties and special events at clubs around town.

**Cont'd on pg. 78 ▶**

In The Life Atlanta's annual fashion show and kickoff party is a popular event among attendees.

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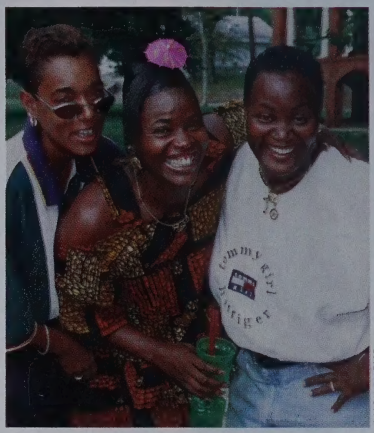

SHER PRUITT

Family Day at Piedmont Park

On Saturday, ITLA will host the Health and Wellness Symposium and Cultural Arts Festival, along with poetry readings and new Signature Series events, designed to appeal to those who want a break from the nightclub scene.

Sunday will feature an interfaith worship service, followed by a new ITLA event sure to be a favorite: a trip to Atlanta's Six Flags amusement park, with a special group meal and concert.

Black Gay Pride '99 will conclude on Monday with a Labor Day pool party and barbecue at the host hotel.

While many of the Black Gay Pride events focus on fun, ITLA organizers stress that this year's theme still reflects a serious mission.

"Return to Royalty is a call to remember our ancestors and reclaim that which we have either lost or given up through many years of oppression and disenfranchisement," the group says.

But while In the Life Atlanta is dedicated to celebrating black culture and heritage, Black Gay Pride events are open to everyone.

Will white gays be welcome, too? "Definitely," says ITLA Executive Director Darryl Moch. "We look forward to the day when they will start coming and say, 'I want to know about you and understand you, and go beyond my comfort zone and experience what you are all about.'" ▼

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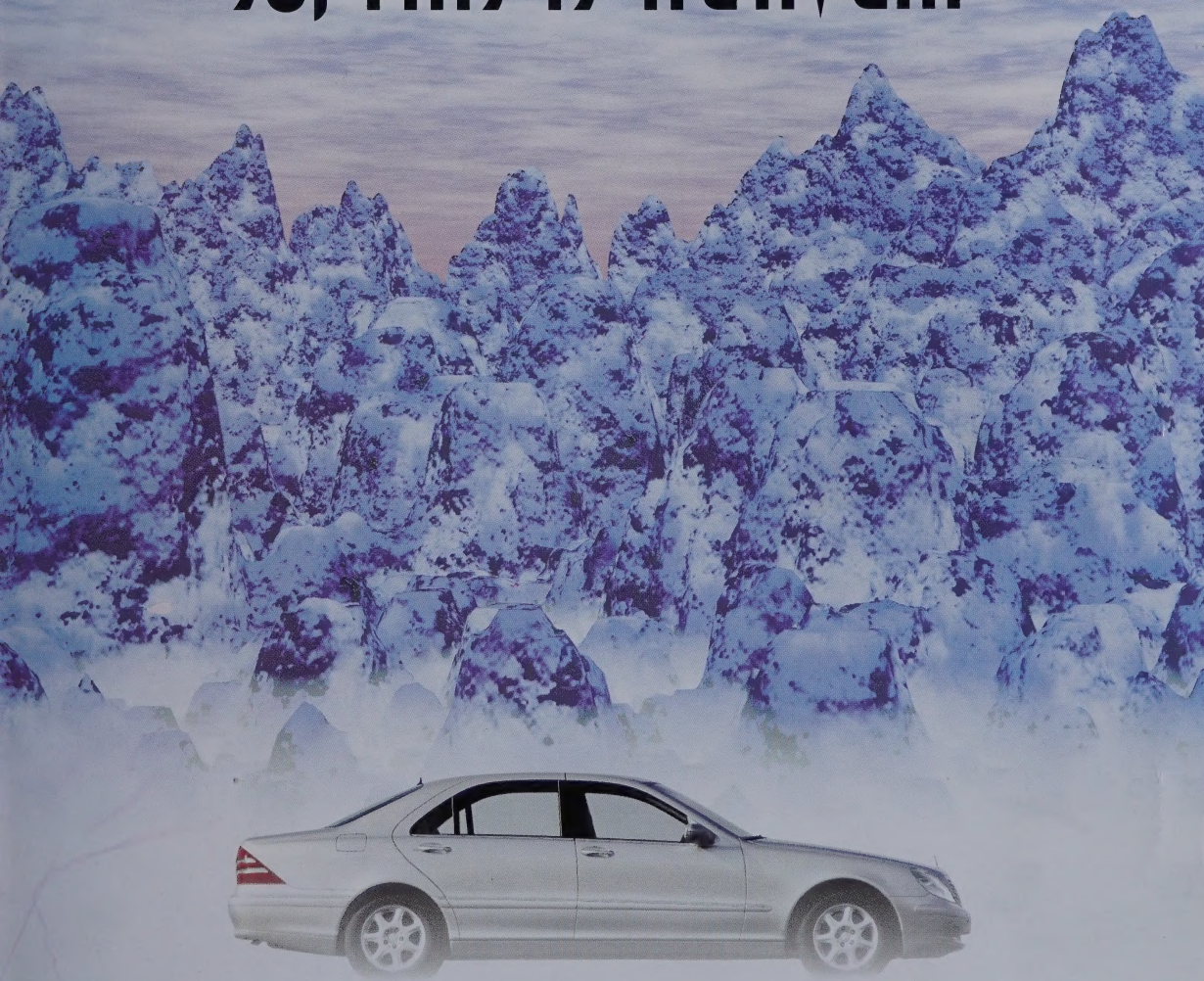

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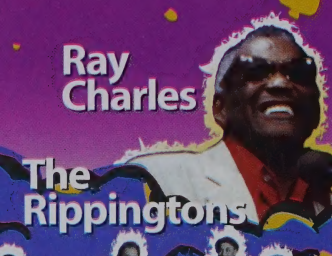

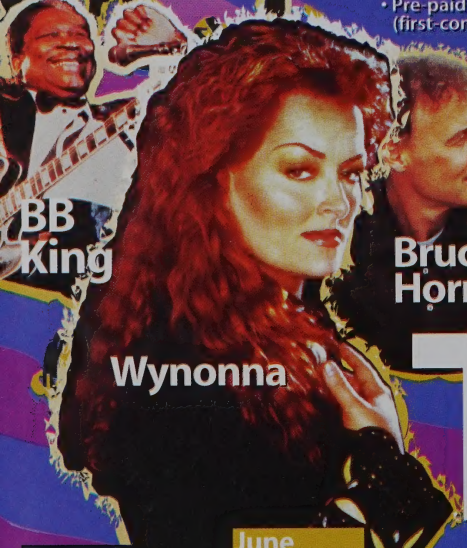


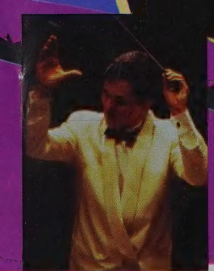

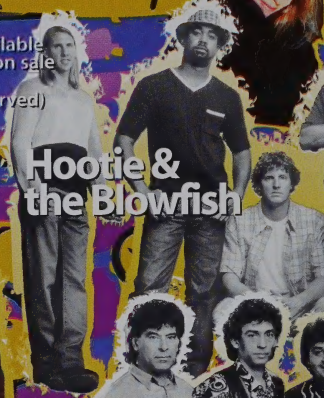


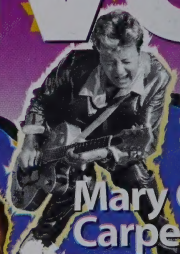

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